Major victory for social workers after two years of strike action

Spain

After a long and bitter strike, social and residential care workers - the vast majority women - have won a major victory and new three-year collective agreement covering employers in the Bizkaia/Vizcaya region of Northern Spain. The agreement will involve four pay increases staged from September 2017 to 2020, equivalent to an overall increase of 20%. The move to a 35-hour week will also mean a cut of 200 hours per year and involve the recruitment of more workers and so will improve the quality of care. There will also be improvements to compensation in the event of occupational accidents or disease.

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