

Firefighters' Network Meeting

20-21 June 2023

Stockholm

1. Professional cancer

Key questions: Update from national laws and practices? Are regular health checks mandatory in your country? Any project/campaign/negotiations from your union on this matter that you would like to share?

2. Staffing levels / climate

Key questions:

Are you suffering from staff shortages?

Have you calculated how many firefighters (and control staff) are missing in your country?

What are the causes (austerity /no replacements on pensions/ hiring have been frozen/ increased need due to climate change in some areas that were not covered before/ other...)?

Do you have industrial actions on this? How is it going?

How are you coping with staffing levels during extreme weather conditions/emergencies (e.g. forest fires, floodings...)?

Is management reducing teams for certain operations (e.g. sending out a smaller teams instead of full team)? If so, for which operations? How many firefighters compose your "full team"?

3. Working time directive: volunteers and impact on shifts

Key questions for volunteers:

How is the situation with volunteers or part – time or on-call firefighters in your country?

How many compared to full firefighting workforce

Do they have a contract?

Do they have the same training as a professional firefighter or a different one?

Do they have pension contributions?

Key questions for shifts: The EU directive mandate that employees must have 11 hours of rest during a 24-hour period. This could mean that schedules change for firefighters and that they are prohibited from working 24-hour shifts. Instead, they will have to work more shifts per month. Has the EU legislation been used to change the length of shifts in your country? How are your shifts organised and how this is changing?

4. Trainings and joint operations /climate

Key questions:

How long is a training for a professional firefighter in your country?

Do you have to go through regular trainings?

Is it mandatory in your country to have training before employment as a professional firefighter?

Do you have specific training/information on how to handle missions abroad or joint operations?