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The OGBL's tenacity pays off

A tripartite agreement worthy of the name

A new national tripartite agreement has just been signed by the OGBL. This agreement supports the purchasing power of households and restores the normal functioning of the index. It puts an end to the **previous tripartite agreement signed without the OGBL**, which many consider to be the worst agreement ever signed in the history of the country. The only purpose of the latter was to manipulate the automatic indexation of wages by limiting the number of indexes to one per year and to postpone its application to the following year.

This manipulation without any real counterparts constituted an unprecedented aid to companies, and this at the expense of employees and pensioners. **Many ArcelorMittal employees never saw the €84 promised by others and received far less in energy credit (CIE) than they would have received if their salary had been increased by 2.5% in an index.**

A real social package

During this tripartite, the OGBL, as spokesperson, defended its positions which resulted in the signing of a real « social » package of measures. The new agreement includes, among others, the following elements (communicated by the government) for persons:

- **All future index brackets will be paid when they are due.** The normal functioning of the index is thus fully restored.
- **Curbing energy prices for households:** limiting the increase in the price of heating gas to +15%, stabilising electricity prices, reducing the price of heating oil by 0,15€ per litre, measures to mitigate increases in the price of pellets.
- **Temporary reduction of normal VAT** from 17% to 16%, intermediate from 14% to 13% and reduced from 8% to 7%
- **The rate of the social minimum wage will be adapted to the evolution of the average wage**
- Contribution to the financing of the increase in energy prices for **residents of residential care facilities for the elderly**

This result is the fruit of the continuous mobilisation of the **OGBL alone and against all**. This is thanks to all its structures and activists who have never ceased to oppose the manipulation of the index over the last few months.

