

Preliminary complaint of Association of Romanian Communes in relation to OUG on freezing of public sector staff wages

The Association of Romanian Communes (ACoR) has submitted a preliminary complaint with the Government, the ministries of Finance, Labour, Development and with the Ombudsman with regard to the Emergency Ordinance (OUG) that provides for the maintenance in 2021 of the gross amount of the public sector staff salaries at the level of December 2020.

The association states that the ordinance was issued "in violation of legal provisions" and claims that the normative act was not put up for public debate.

Government Emergency Ordinance no. 57/2019 on the Administrative Code, with subsequent modifications and supplementing, stipulates that "in the process of drafting normative acts, public authorities and institutions have the obligation to inform and submit to public consultation and debate the draft normative acts and to allow citizens access to the administrative decision-making process, as well as to the data and information of public interest, within the limits of the law," mentions the association.

"ACoR considers that the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 226/2020 was issued in violation of the legal provisions, concluding succinctly and unequivocally that the Government of Romania has clearly exceeded its competence, acting arbitrarily, manifesting contempt towards the constitutional and legal provisions," stipulates the quoted source.

Government Emergency Ordinance no. 226 of December 30, 2020 regarding some fiscal-budgetary measures and for the amendment and completion of some normative acts and the extension of some terms stipulates among others that: in 2021, starting with January 1, the gross amount of basic wages/position pay/monthly employment allowances received by the staff paid from public funds are maintained at the same level as the one granted for December 2020 insofar as the staff holds the same position and carries out their activity under the same conditions; in 2021, the monthly allowances for the positions of public dignity and the positions assimilated to them will be maintained at the level of December 2020.