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60th anniversary of the Rome Treaties

A social Europe, where a key role is fulfilled by the social partners



What the European Economic Community was in 1957, is now the European Union. The name changed, the number of member states changed, the contents changed. In the same way, the public services of today are no longer the public services of 60 years ago. Being the representatives of employees of public services, we would like to say that the situation of employees of public services has changed for the better, but unfortunately, this is not the case.

On the one hand, the view on the public service mission has not changed, it is all about serving the public. What has changed, is the view on the way in which the provision of public services should be assured. Privatisation, liberalisation, outsourcing, the key notion in the public service of today is performance. The civil servant of today has to perform. They have been made more responsible and more accountable.



One currency for one EU has put obligations on the countries of the eurozone to strictly follow criteria of keeping public expenditure under control. The financial crisis of 2008 has made governments decide even more for developing austerity policies in public services. The staff of those public services have seen how, throughout the years, their numbers are no longer in line with the tasks they have to fulfil. They have been confronted with problems of overburdening, stress and burnout.

Eurofedop makes an appeal towards governments for providing the means required by employees of public services to fulfil to the best of their abilities their tasks related to serving the public. On the occasion of the celebration of the 60th anniversary in Rome on 25th March 2017, Eurofedop supports the Declaration signed on this occasion, through which the EU of the 27 pledge to go forward in unity, to achieve, among others, a social Europe where a key role is fulfilled by the social partners.