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The government approved the starting points of the law on workers' ownership cooperatives Worker ownership schemes will be modeled on other developed countries

The government has approved the starting points for the preparation of the law on workers' ownership cooperatives. According to the explanations of the Ministry for a Solidary Future, the core and meaning of the law will be various forms of stimulation.

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Employee ownership is already present in Slovenian companies, but it is not systematically regulated, as a result of which shares or company shares are bought individually and are often transferred outside the company when employees retire or leave, the ministry announced after today's government meeting.

"With the new legislation, we want to regulate the system of establishing and maintaining worker ownership by purchasing shares or shares from external owners or owners who retire and leave the company, as well as the system of including new employees in company ownership," they wrote.

According to the Ministry, the new law will facilitate the possibility of establishing an employee ownership system for all other companies, which will recognize the added value for themselves and their employees.

"With the introduction of the ownership cooperative as a new legal entity, the mechanism for dealing with the succession of companies will also be regulated, i.e. companies whose owners are retiring but have no successors who would take over the company and thereby ensure that it remains in local ownership and continues the business policy that supports the preservation of jobs in the local environment," they added.

Ownership cooperatives can become a good alternative in creating a more solidary future

According to Simon Maljevec, the minister for a solidary future, ownership cooperatives can become a good alternative in creating a more solidary and democratic future. "All the more so because they respond to the development challenges that our economy will face in the future. In the next five to ten years, approximately a quarter of the owners of small and medium-sized companies, where around 70 percent of the employees work, will retire." summarize it in the message.

According to the minister, they want to provide business owners with a model for succession, where employees enter the ownership of the company. "For the workers, the advantage will be the solution that they will not use their savings to enter ownership, but will acquire ownership through their work and belonging to the company," he added.

According to his explanations, when preparing the law, they were inspired by the most successful practices from abroad, which are based on the model of employee ownership plans. A similar law is also in force in the USA and Great Britain.

The Ministry for a Solidary Future will coordinate the text of the law interdepartmentally and coalitionally by autumn, and then send it for public consideration. Adoption of the law is expected towards the end of this year or at the beginning of next year.

Boštjančič: Attracting well-educated foreigners is one of the government's priorities

The amendments to the Law on Aliens will include solutions derived from the European directive on determining the conditions for the entry and residence of highly qualified third-country nationals who wish to reside and work in the EU. A new digital nomad permit is to be introduced.

The draft law will also include changes that are necessary in order to fulfill the obligations in accordance with the regulation on the establishment of the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS), according to the message after the government meeting.

According to Finance Minister Klemno Boštjančič, there are significantly more proposals than just the transfer of directives. He adds that the government has agreed that they will try to finalize legal solutions by September and then adopt them by October at the latest. According to the government's assessment, the Law on Foreigners and the Law on the Employment of Foreigners are topics that urgently need extensive discussion at the Economic and Social Council (ESS), so the first round of these talks will be held on Friday.

He emphasized that this is just the beginning of the discussion and that it is by no means the final form of the law. The government is primarily interested in feedback from both employers and employees, who will be heard at the ESS.

Among the main solutions to the starting points for the preparation of the proposal for an amendment to the Act on Employment, Self-Employment and Work of Foreigners, the Ministry of Labor points out, among other things, two new conditions for issuing consent to a single permit for residence and work. These are that the employer did not announce the layoff of a large number of workers and that he did not lay off workers for business reasons.

The amendment would also introduce the possibility of seasonal work in catering and tourism, but only on the basis of an employment contract. of third countries and harmonized the designations of education with the Slovenian framework of qualifications.

Government for greater choice among providers of services for the disabled

He wants to extend the possibility of choice to providers who are not disability organizations, but already implement various forms of services, programs or projects for the disabled. Thus, the proposal should diversify and expand programs, projects and services. At the same time, they expect accessibility to programs and projects to be better. These programs or projects should be financed from European funds, if they are guaranteed.

The proposal also stipulates that programs or projects that are identical in content to services that are legally recognized rights or are already co-financed from public funds cannot be co-financed. In addition, it regulates the legal basis for the allocation of public funds for the co-financing of other programs and projects for equalizing the opportunities of disabled people in society by determining the purpose, general conditions of the public tender for co-financing and the criteria for the allocation of funds after the tender.