

## The kind of independence that matters

Dear colleagues,

↳ **Are you worried about the rising cost of living?** The automatic method of adjusting remuneration protects you up to a certain extent. But some Member States would have preferred to have their hands free to be able to depart from it, [the way they did before the 2014 reform](#). Fight Fatalism, strengthen the union that brings together **the experience and the determination to stand up for you!**

Strengthen the union which has **the means and the will** to defend you in court, without which you can only rely on the good will of the administration... A Staff Committee, as such, cannot (read the [vademecum](#)).

↳ **Is the workload getting worse while the staffing levels are stagnating?** A Staff Committee's role is not to console you for your misfortunes! The solution is to attack the problems at the root! **Respect for dignity** requires a strong union!

↳ **Do you feel there is favouritism and discrimination?** Support the team of candidates put forward by **USF/EPSU-CJ**, the union that has managed to establish **transparent procedures** (e.g. the *pro rata temporis* mechanism) which replaced haggling and clientelism!

An effective Staff Committee is one backed by a strong and **independent** trade union!

A trade union *'shall enjoy complete **independence** from public authorities'*, as required by the International Labour Organization ([ILO](#)), and that's the kind of **independence which matters to you!**

Among other [criteria for the recognition and representativeness of TUSAs](#), the Court of Justice requires a union to "exercise its activities in complete **independence**", based on having "as its main resources its members' subscriptions".

An effective Staff Committee is one that harmonises its action with a strong and competent union. Discord can only weaken your position.

↳ **Are you disillusioned that important decisions affecting you** (e.g. reform of the Staff Regulations, reform of the General Court) **are out of reach?**

Send a strong message: **'We're not giving up!'** by strengthening the legitimacy of a union which will inform you, consult you and represent you!

Give a mandate to colleagues of the Court of Justice who will be accountable to you! Vote for all 13 candidates of the **USF/EPSU-CJ** team!