Norway – Strike ended after four days with historic pay rise

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The strike that was declared by the Norwegian confederation of trade unions (LO) on Sunday, was over after four days. The workers achieved a historically good result which shows the benefits of unity. The outcome is much better than what was offered the union side by the employers during state mediation.

The different wage increases add up to a total of 5.2%. This is enough to ensure improved purchasing power for all. In terms of money everyone gets NOK 7.50 per hour (EUR 0.65) whereas the low-paid get NOK 11.50 or 10.50 (EUR 0.98 or 0.90) depending on whether they have local bargaining rights or not.

As the groups of workers with lowest pay, normally are those who are weak in local bargaining, it was important to give these groups a boost in the central round of negotiations. Workers subject to collective agreements with less than 90% of average pay for manufacturing workers, get an extra addition of NOK 3.00 (EUR 0.26) per hour. Many of these workers are women.

Edited by industriAll Europe