

The Netherlands – FNV gets 13% over 22 months after conflict

August 2024

FNV has published great news for 340,000 workers in the metal and technology sector (SMEs). Their sectoral agreement has been renewed after four months of industrial action.

The current agreement expired on 31 March 2024. The new agreement ensures, among other improvements, a wage increase of 13% over 22 months (from 1 April 2024 until 1 February 2026).

FNV is very pleased with the result and sees it as an important step forward for the thousands of people who work in metal and technology. They will be receiving a fair reward for their efforts and hard work. The workers in the sector have achieved this outcome due to their patience, commitment and determination over the past few months.

Wages will rise in several steps:

- 7% as of 1 July 2024
- A structural wage increase of €100 per month as of 1 March 2025
- A 3% pay rise in October 2025.

Furthermore, according to the agreement, people with heavy work will have the possibility to retire a few years earlier. If the government makes this arrangement permanent and adjusts the tax rules, it will be extended by five years. The implementation in the Dutch labour code has not been done yet so FNV needs to make temporary arrangements in their collective agreements.

None of the deteriorations suggested by the employers will take place. For example, they wanted to postpone the entry age and extra leave for elderly and in addition cut back on the generation pact. These proposals are all off the table.

With its 340,000 workers in the sector and about 30,000 employers, this collective agreement is the largest in the sector. It covers workers in technical installation, metalworking, insulation, body shops as well as the gold and silver industry.

The members of FNV will vote on the agreement in the coming weeks.

Edited by industriAll Europe