

"[air navigation control, [...] is a task involving the exercise of public authority and is not of an economic nature, since that activity constitutes a service in the public interest which is intended to protect both the users of air transport and the populations affected by aircraft flying over them".

(Extract of decision C.364/92 of the European Court of Justice).

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PRESS RELEASE Polish Air Traffic Control soon to be unmanned!

Brussels, 28 March 2022

"Since months, ATCEUC was warning before a situation arising in Poland, where not enough Air Traffic Controllers will be left to control the polish airspace." says **Mr Volker Dick, ATCEUC President**.

"We have warned the European Institutions, we have warned CANSO and the airlines, that PANSAs was forcing its ATCOs out of the company by destroying the safety culture and safety management system, drawing disciplinary consequences against employees reporting irregularities, bullying the personnel and unilaterally cutting ATCOs' wages even by 70%." concludes **Mr Dick**.

"PANSA is not only violating the rights of its employees, according to the European Pillar of Social Rights, it is endangering the safety of the European airspace." says Mr Xavier Wirth, ATCEUC Vice President.

"Forcing almost 180 ATCOs to not prolong their contracts on base of the new unacceptable conditions will produce unseen delays and it will force traffic to divert to the west where Germany will not be able to handle all the demand because simultaneously traffic from Reims ACC will be diverted to German airspace as well to ensure safety during major technological changes of French ATM" concludes **Mr Wirth.**

ATCEUC calls on all the involved European and Polish institutions and ANSPs to use their means to avoid this from happening. <u>It is not yet</u> too late.

ATCEUC calls on PANSA to reach a common sense and bring the situation in the agency back to normal. Restoring safety levels of providing air traffic services and achieving just culture to a level acceptable by employees, is more than essential, because those are the pillars without which Air Traffic Controllers cannot continue to operate safely.

END OF PRESS RELEASE

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