

## 'Readaptation contributes to the redeployment of 56 500 workers' from the Communauté européenne (October 1965)

**Caption:** In the 1960s, the coal crisis led to factory closures and to widespread unemployment. In order to remedy the situation, the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) embarks on a programme of social action aimed particularly at retraining mineworkers.

**Source:** Communauté européenne. Bulletin mensuel d'information. dir. de publ. Fontaine, François. Octobre 1965, n° 10; 9e année. Paris: Service d'Information des Communautés Européennes. "La réadaptation contribue au reclassement de 56 500 travailleurs", p. 6.

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[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/readaptation\\_contributes\\_to\\_the\\_redeployment\\_of\\_56\\_500\\_workers\\_from\\_the\\_communaute\\_europeenne\\_october\\_1965-en-d18820d5-0d38-4288-a3c5-53fd893c0089.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/readaptation_contributes_to_the_redeployment_of_56_500_workers_from_the_communaute_europeenne_october_1965-en-d18820d5-0d38-4288-a3c5-53fd893c0089.html)



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## In the ECSC

### Readaptation contributes to the redeployment of 56 500 workers

The High Authority contributes financially to the redeployment of workers by means of readaptation aid. This differs from unemployment benefit in both the amount and the length of time received.

The aid is much higher than unemployment benefit, amounting to as much as 90 % of the worker's previous salary, and is limited to the period of time required for worker redeployment, i.e. the search for either an identical job on site or in another region, or a different job that requires an occupational training period.

The readaptation aid lasts anywhere from one to two years and includes, in addition to the tide-over salary, professional retraining expenses, compensation if the new salary is lower than the previous salary, moving or transport and travel expenses for those who are transferring their place of residence and their family to another region.

Since 1960, the High Authority has raised 85 million francs for this aid programme, which has contributed to the redeployment of 56 500 workers.

It stands to reason that a favourable economic situation has helped a good number of redundant workers to find work quickly without readaptation aid.

It is also quite certain that not all recipients of such aid have received all types of assistance. Some workers, who were transferred by the same company from one mine to another, received a travel allowance, while tide-over allowances were paid to other workers for longer or shorter periods of time.

Nevertheless, over 56 000 workers representing 50 to 80 % of redundant workers, depending on the country, have received some shape or form of assistance from the ECSC before finding new jobs.

### Higher proportion of redeployed workers in France and in Belgium

According to the information compiled centrally in Luxembourg, the proportion of redundant workers who receive readaptation aid is noticeably higher in France and in Belgium than in Germany.

Although this proportion does not exceed 50 % in Germany, the major producer of steel and coal, this is the country with the greatest number (38 960) of readaptation cases.

It is just the opposite in France: while 86.5 % of redundant coal miners received readaptation aid, the total number of readaptation cases amounts to only 2 471.

The proportion is slightly lower (69.1 %) for the French iron mines, while the total figure remains more or less the same (2 152).

In Belgium as in France, the proportion of readaptation cases is high (82 %), but the number of miners who have received assistance is higher, having reached 11 892.

[...]