Social dialogue – various tripartite structures have been set up to monitor the progress of the Social Agreement in Defence of Employment.

Social protection / health and safety – people who become ill or have to isolate due to Covid-19 have been given full access to social security benefits. This is linked to occupational health provisions.

Wage subsidy / social dialogue – the government introduced ‘Temporary Employment Regulation File’ (ERTE): a guaranteed payment of 70% of a salary in the form of unemployment benefit in the event of a suspension of an employment contract or reduction in working hours due to restrictions owing to Covid-19. Additional benefits can be decided at a company level through collective bargaining.

Two special subsidies were introduced: a subsidy for workers on temporary contracts and a subsidy for domestic workers.

Special benefits have been offered to self-employed people whose activities have been interrupted or discontinued due to Covid-19. These include a moratorium on rent and mortgage payments and guaranteed access to basic utilities.

Minimum living wage – a long-standing trade union demand for a minimum living wage (IMV) has now been met. The IMV is a benefit for people who have no income and are not eligible for ERTE benefits or unemployment benefits. It starts at €462 and increases depending on the number of family members in the household. The IMV has been introduced as a permanent measure – access to it will remain in place beyond the Covid-19 crisis.