

OPEN LETTER TO MR. DANIEL LIEBHART

VIDA DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN – AVIATION AND SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

On the anniversary of the passing of the great Niki Lauda, the employees of the company that bears his name and which he founded, dealt with another great loss: **the death of their jobs** and the closure of Laudamotion's Vienna base.

After more than one month of struggle and apprehension Lauda's cabin crew and pilots based in Vienna are now facing the situation of being jobless, amongst the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, with any short or middle term perspective of finding a new job within the aviation industry.

Vienna is the most multicultural and multinational base in the company. Within his ranks our base employs Austrians, Italians, Romanians, Turkish, English, Hungarians, Iranians, Portuguese, Egyptian. Although the big number of different nationalities there is one thing that drives us all: **the love for aviation!**

This love carried by millions of colleagues around the world has been wrecked by the COVID-19 throwing thousands of crews to unemployment: 3,000 in Virgin, 12,000 in British Airways, 6000 in Alitalia, 1100 in Austrian Airways, 1000 in Wizzair and many more. **We do not want to be part of this numbers.**

To not face the same consequences, Laudamotion draft a plan to save our jobs. This meant that sacrifices would have to be made and the inefficiencies of the company would have to be cut out. A new Terms & Conditions / Collective Labour Agreement was submitted to the social partners as part of this strategy.

Over the last weeks Laudamotion sent emails to understand the adherence to this new T&C's / CLA to its Vienna base employees. On the aftermath of this emails, 95% of the Flight Crew and 70% of the cabin crew agreed with this solution that would save their jobs.

We were not listened!

VIDA did not listen!

We found to be unbelievable that the organization that defends the rights and the will of the employees did not follow **our right to have a job and our will to maintain it** in the conditions that the company purposed to us.

Monday 25th May, peacefully and respectfully, we will be manifesting in your doorsteps for our right to have a job and for the will of the majority. Maybe that day is the last day that we use these uniforms so proudly that they feel like a second skin.

We would like and we are very willing to hear from you and to speak to you. Freely understand what your concerns in the hope that you will also understand ours. We are waiting your invitation to join you inside your office and work together in rewriting this story towards a happy ending.

More than 500 people are struggling in this situation. We still have time to find a solution, but time is of the essence. If we act fast and together, we still have time to **save our jobs** and hopefully see during the many years to come Lauda airplanes taking off from the runway of the Vienna Airport as so many times Niki Lauda did in the past.

Thank you,

Vienna Flight & Cabin Crew