

Interessengemeinschaft der 24h-Betreuer:innen

Making the invisible work visible Data collection on 24-hours live-in carers

# Questionnaire

December 2024

Ingrid Mairhuber, Andreas Schadauer, Johanna Neuhauser, Flavia Matei

Contact: Ingrid Mairhuber Tel. +43 1 21 24 700-66 mairhuber@forba.at

Flavia Matei Tel. +43 699 1812 6063 kontakt@ig24.at

www.24h-unsichtbar.at

#### **1** INTRODUCTION

#### Dear participant

The Centre for Labour Field Research (FORBA), together with IG24 – Interest Group for Live-In Care Workers and the University of Vienna Institute of Sociology, is conducting a survey on the working and living conditions of 24-hour live-in careworkers in Austria. The survey aims to draw attention to the current situation and the issues within this sector. Demands and proposals for improvements will be formulated based on the results of the survey.

The success of this survey depends on your support. Completing the survey will take about xxx minutes.

Questions that are mandatory are marked with an asterisk (\*). You can skip all other questions if you cannot or do not want to answer them.

For navigation, please use only the buttons labelled "Next" and "Back" at the bottom of the page. Please do <u>NOT</u> use the "Back" function of your browser.

You can always pause the survey to continue later. If you reopen the survey on the same computer, smartphone or tablet by using the same link, and if cookies are enabled and not too much time has passed, you can continue the survey right where you left off.

Alternatively, or if you want to take extra safety precautions, you can also manually save your progress by clicking on the three dots at the top right-hand corner and selecting **'Resume later**'.

#### Data protection information

The survey is anonymous, in accordance with data protection regulations (GDPR, DSG). Therefore, the data you enter cannot be traced back to you.

Further information on protecting your data can be found at: xxxx

If you have any questions or encounter technical problems, please contact Andreas Schadauer (FORBA), preferably in German or English, at: umfrage@forba.at

For more information on this project, please visit: http://24h-unsichtbar.at

**Note:** This is an adapted version of the online questionnaire. In the online version the links/filters are not visible for the participants but are applied automatically.

#### A. General information about the respondent

#### A1. How old are you?

#### A2 What is your gender? Woman Man Other A3 What is the highest level of education you have completed? Compulsory education Vocational education Highschool College or University A4\_1 In your opinion, how well do you speak German? Very well Well Average Poorly Very poorly

### A4u1 When you are not working in Austria as a live-in careworker, which country do you mainly live in?

Bulgaria	
Croatia	
Republic of Moldova	
Poland	
Romania	
Serbia	
Slovakia	
Hungary	
Ukraine	

I'm living in Austria In another country		
A4u1t. You said you lived in another country. Which country is that?		
A5 Do you have children under 15 years of age in the country ye	ou live in?	
Yes		
No		
A6u1 How many years have you worked in the live-in care industry?		
A6u2 For how many years have you been working in this industry in Austria?		
A7u1 Which Bundesland (federal state) are you currently working	ng in?	
Burgenland		
Carinthia		
Lower Austria		
Upper Austria		
Salzburg		
Styria		
Tyrol		
Vorarlberg		
Vienna		
A7u2 Is your workplace in a rural or urban (e.g. in cities such as G	Graz, Linz) area?	
rural area		
urban area		
A8 At your current live-in care workplace, you work		
under an employment contract (as an employee)		
independently (through a placement agency)		

independently (without a placement agency)	
A9 How did you find your current job?	
Through a placement agency	
Through personal contacts	
Through an ad	
Some other way	

FILTER: IF A9 "Some other way" go to A9t otherwise B2u1_1	
A9t You mentioned that you found your current job through	
some other way. Can you tell us how?	

#### B. Working and living conditions at your current job

The next questions are related to working and living conditions at your current workplace in Austria. They reference both the placement agency and your clients/customers. Once again, we assure you that all the information you provide will remain anonymous, and cannot be traced back to you, the agency you work with or your client.

If you are not currently working in Austria, please answer the questions with your last job in Austria in mind.

B2u1_1 What job information was made available to you before you sta	arted	work?
	Yes	No

	 -
Information regarding the client's health status.	
If yes: Was this information accurate? Information regarding your living and accommodation	
conditions at work.	
If yes: Was this information accurate?	
Information regarding your daily work hours.	
If yes: Was this information accurate?	
Information regarding your pay.	
If yes: Was this information accurate?	

The next questions are related to the carework contract ("Betreuungsvertrag") signed with the client or their relatives.

B3u1\_1 When did you receive the carework contract ("Betreuungsvertrag")?

before starting work	
on the first day of work	
later	

	Ja	Nein
B3u2_1 Did you also receive the carework contract ("Betreuungsvertrag") in your mother tongue?		
B3u2_2 Did you have the opportunity to read and understand		
the carework contract before starting work?		
<b>B3u2_3</b> Did you have the opportunity to negotiate the content of the carework contract ("Betreuungsvertrag") directly with the		
client or their relatives (e.g. exact tasks, working hours, break times, etc.)?		

#### Carework activities actually carried out in the workplace

B4u1_B4u1a According to your contract, how many people are you	L
caring for?	

1	
2	
3	
More than 3	

#### B4u1\_B4u1b How many people are you caring for in reality?

1	
2	
3	
More than 3	

#### B4u3 What are the tasks you perform?

Please select all options that apply to you.

Household management, organisation of daily schedule, socialising	
Managing the household spending book ("Haushaltsbuch")	
Securing a replacement in case of absence	
Support with oral food or fluids intake	
Assistance with personal hygiene and use of the toilet or incontinence products	
Assistance with dressing and undressing	
Assistance with lifting, moving, sitting, lying down	
Administration of medication	
Application of bandages and dressings	
Administration of subcutaneous injections of insulin or anticoagulants	
Blood sampling to determine glucose levels	
Simple applications of light and heat	

#### Working hours

Note: The survey can be paused and continued later. To do this, click on the three dots in the top right and select the "Continue later" option.

We will now discuss working hours in your current or your last turnus
in Austria.
B5u1_1 How long is/was your turnus?

14 days	
3 weeks	
4 weeks	
longer	

FILTER: If B5u1_1 "longer" go to B5u1t	
B5u1t You answered that your turnus is longer than 4	
Dealt for anomolog that your tarned is longer than 4	
weeks, exactly how long is it?	

B5u2 On average, how many hours do you actually work each day?

## B5u3\_1 How many times a week do you have to care for your client at night?

#### B5u4\_1 How long is your daily break?

l don't have a break	
Less than an hour	
One hour	
Two hours	
More than two hours	

#### B5u5\_1 How many times a week do you miss this break?

Daily	
A few times per week	
Once per week	
Never	

#### B5u6\_1 Can you leave the household during your break?

Yes	
No	

#### Housing, food and support at work

B6 The next questions are related to the housing situation during your current or last turnus in Austria. \*

	Yes	No
Do you have your own room?		
<b>If own room:</b> Can your room be locked and is e.g. not a pass- through room?		
If own room: Does your room have a window?		
If own room: Is your room cool enough during summer?		
If own room: Is your room warm enough during winter?		
Do you have the appropriate conditions to ensure proper personal hygiene (showering, washing, skin care, etc.)?		

Do you have free and functional internet access?		
B7 Now let's talk about meals:	Yes	No
Are your meals provided at work?		
If no: Are you paid extra to account for meals?		
Do you have enough time to eat?		
If B7 "yes, meals are provided" go to B7u2 B7u2 How satisfied are you with the meals provided at work?		
very satisfied		
satisfied		
not satisfied		
very unsatisfied		

### B8u1 Thinking about your current or previous turnus, are you receiving any support from....

The client's relatives?	Yes	No
The client's neighbours?		
Mobile nursing staff ("Hauskrankenpflege")?		

#### B8u2 Also:

Do you have sufficient aids available (e.g. nursing bed,	Ja	Nein
wheelchair, walking frame, etc.)?		
Are visits from the Austrian authorities carried out to inspect		
the quality of live-in care services provided?		
Does the placement agency carry out visits to inspect the		
quality of live-in care services?		

#### Stress and workplace demands

Note: The survey can be paused and continued later. To do this, click on the three dots in the top right and select the "Continue later" option.

B9u1_1 How well can you get along verbally, or how well were you ab to get along verbally with your last client?	le	
Very well		
Well		
Poorly		
Very poorly		
Wenn B9u2_1 Do you feel appreciated by your client?		
Yes		
Mostly yes		
Mostly no		
No		
B9u2_2 Do you feel appreciated by your client's relatives?		
Yes		
Mostly yes		
Mostly no		
No		
B9u4 How demanding do you feel your work is?		
Very demanding		
Demanding		
Somewhat demanding		
Not at all demanding		
B9u5 What makes you feel your work is demanding?	Yes	No
Having to carry out specialised care activities (e.g. assistance with personal hygiene, assistance with dressing and undressing)		
Having to carry out nursing activities (e.g. applying and changing bandages, administering medication, giving insulin injections)		
Having to take on tasks that have not been agreed on (e.g. caring for more than one person, housework for other relatives, gardening, extensive cleaning, tasks to be done	_	_
using a car)		
Having to perform demanding physical activities		
Having to perform demanding emotional activities		Ц

Fearing for the client (e.g. because of their health condition)	
Conflict with the client	
Conflict with the relatives	
Conflicts with the placement agency	
Living situation at the workplace	
Client waking up frequently during the night	

#### B9u6 Do you have enough time for yourself and your personal needs?

#### Experiences with workplace violence

No

The following questions deal with sensitive subjects, so we would like to reiterate that all answers are completely anonymous and cannot be attributed to you in any way.

#### B10u1 Have you experienced violence at work?

 Please select all the options that apply to you.

 Physical violence (e.g. pushing, painful physical contact, hair pulling, pinching)

 Psychological/emotional violence (e.g. harassment, threats, humiliation)

 Verbal violence (e.g. shouting, swearing)

 I did not experience any violent situations.

### B10u2\_1 Have you experienced sexual harassment at work (e.g. unwanted touching, lewd comments, persistent stares)?

Yes	
No	

B10u2\_2 Have you experienced racism at work?

Yes 
No

B11 Have you received help and support for any of these issues (e.g. from placement agencies, professional interest groups or the Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ)?

Yes No

B11t You answered that you received support in such situations, can you tell us from whom?

#### Earnings / pay

The following questions are related to your pay. If you do not currently provide live-in care services, please answer with your last job in mind.

П

### B12u1 What is your daily pay, minus SVS social insurance contributions? B12u2 How satisfied are you with this pay? Very satisfied Satisfied Neither satisfied, nor unsatisfied Not satisfied Not at all satisfied B12u3 And how well can you manage with your pay? I can live well It's sufficient It's barely enough It's insufficient

#### B12u4 Who sets your daily pay amount?

The placement agency	
The client or their relatives	
Ме	

#### B12u5 In your opinion, who should negotiate the amount of your pay?

The placement agency together with the client or their relatives	
Me with the placement agency	
Me with the client or their relatives	

#### B12u6

-	Ja	Nein
Do you get bonuses for working on Sundays and public holidays?		
Do you get bonuses for working at night? Did you ever receive a lower pay than the one agreed in the		
contract?		
Does your current pay adequately reflect your qualifications?		
Does your current pay adequately recognise your live-in care work experience?		
Does your current pay adequately recognise your knowledge of German?		

### B12u12 Has your current pay increased with the increased need for care?

Yes	
No	
Does not apply	

#### B13u1 Who pays you?

The placement agency	
The client or their relatives	

#### B13u2 In your opinion, who should pay you? \*

The placement agency	
The client or their relatives	

#### Transportation between the country of origin and Austria for the current turnus

Note: The survey can be paused and continued later. To do this, click on the three dots in the top right and select the "Continue later" option.

B14u1 How is	transportation	organised	between	Austria	and	your
home country?						

l organize my own transportation	
By the placement agency (optional)	
By the placement agency (mandatory)	

FILTER: If B14u1 by placement agency go to B14	_	
B14 You answered that the transport is organised by the agency, do		
you agree or disagree with these statements?		
	Ja	Nein
Transportation organised by the placement agency works well.		
Transportation organised by the placement agency is done safely.		
B14u5 Do you get extra money for transportation?		
Yes		
No, I have to pay for my own transportation.		
FILTER: If B14u5 yes go to B14u6		
B14u6 Is this extra money enough?		
Yes		
No		

#### C. Experiences with the placement agency/agencies

Hint: The questions in this section are just shown to participants who answered A8 self-employed with placement agency.

The following questions are related to your experience with the placement agency.

C1u1 You mentioned that you currently work as an independent live	<u>)</u> -
in careworker with a placement agency.	

This is an Austrian placement agency	
This is a placement agency registered outside Austria	
Both (for example, there is a collaboration between an Austrian agency and an agency from outside Austria)	
l don't know	

FILTER: If C1u1 Austrian placement agency or both go to C1u2C1u2 Does the agency hold an Austrian quality certificate for placement agencies within the live-in care system (ÖQZ)?

Yes	
No	
l don't know	

# C2 What information about working with the placement agency was made available to you before you started working? Please select all that apply to you.

Placement agency services			
The amount of the placement fees Details about the power of attorney of the placement agency (e.g. "Inkasso" power of attorney)			
Termination details			
Details of possible penalties			
Transportation details (how to travel to and from Austria)			
C3u1 When did you receive the contract ("Organisationsvertrag") with the placement agency?			
Before starting to work with the placement agency			
After starting to work with the placement agency			
After starting to work with the placement agency			
FILTER: If C3u1 After starting to work go to C3u1a			

Upon starting to work (when live-in care work started)

### C3u2 In which language did you receive the placement contract ("Organisationsvertrag")?

Please select all that apply to you.

In German		
In my mother tongue		
<b>C3u3_1</b> Did you have the opportunity to read and understand the placement contract ("Organisationsvertrag") in advance?	Yes	No
<b>C3u3_2</b> Did you have the ability to negotiate the clauses in the placement contract ("Organisationsvertrag")?		

#### Placement fees

Note: The survey can be paused and continued later. To do this, click on the three dots in the top right and select the "Continue later" option.

#### C4u5 Do you pay a placement fee?

Yes, every day	
Yes, monthly	
Yes, bi-annually	
Yes, annually	
Yes, for every turnus	
No	

#### FILTER: If C4u5 not No go to C4u6

#### C4u6 How much is the placement fee?

Please enter the amount in Euro ( $\mathfrak{E}$ ) here:

FILTER: If C4u5 not No go to C4u7	
C4u7 Overall, do you believe placement fees are reasonable?	
Yes	
No	

#### C5u1 What services does the placement agency offer you?

Select all that apply to you.

Placing me at a job Registration, pausing, reactivation or cancellation of the commercial licence ("Gewerbe")	
Payment of SVS social insurance contributions Drawing up the carework contract with the client or their relatives	
Mediating conflicts with the client or their relatives	
Arranging a replacement in case of absence Organizing transportation between Austria and the country of	
origin I don't receive any services from the placement agency offers in exchange for fees	

C5u2 The placement agency collects my pay on my behalf and passes it on to me (after deducting the SVS social insurance contribution and placement fees).

Yes	
No	

### **C6 Which services** <u>should</u> be taken over by the placement agency? Select all that apply to you.

Ū		Ja	Nein
	Placing me at a job		
	Registration, pausing, reactivation or cancellation of the commercial licence ("Gewerbe")		
	Payment of SVS social insurance contributions		
	Drawing up the carework contract with the client or their relatives		
	Mediating conflicts with the client or their relatives		
	Arranging a replacement in case of absence		
	Organizing transportation between Austria and the country of origin		
	Collecting my pay on my behalf and passing it on to me (after deducting the SVS social insurance contribution and placement fees).		
	platerities		

### C7u1\_C7u1a Are you satisfied with the services provided by the placement agency?

Yes	
Mostly yes	
Mostly no	
No	

C7u1\_C7u1b Do you feel valued/appreciated by the placement agency?

Yes	
Mostly yes	
Mostly no	
No	

C7u3 Do you feel that the placement agency is acting as an employer towards you?

Yes	
No	
Sometimes	

CA. Questions or self-employed live-in careworkers without a placement agency

Hint: The questions in this section are just shown to participants who answered A8 self-employed without placement agency.

You have stated that you are currently working as an independent live-in careworker without a placement agency.

CA1 How long in years have you been working as a live-in careworker without a placement agency?

#### CA2 Why do you work without a placement agency?

Please select all the options that apply to you.

I have had bad experiences with placement agencies.	
I don't need to work with a placement agency.	
It benefits me financially to work without a placement agency.	
I can work more autonomously without a placement agency.	
Without an agency, I can negotiate directly with my clients.	

#### D. Experiences with public authorities and professional interest groups in Austria

The following questions are related to your experience with the Austrian authorities, professional interest groups representing you, and regulations.

Please think about the entire time you have spent as a live-in careworker in Austria.

D1u1_1 Have you ever contacted the Chamber of Commerce ("Wirtschaftskammer - WKO")?	
Yes	
No	
FILTER: If D1u1_1 Yes got to D1u1_2	
D1u1_2 Were you able to communicate with them in your mother	
tongue?	
Yes	
No	
FILTER: If D1u1_2 No got to D1u1_3	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue?	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue? Yes	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue? Yes	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue? Yes No D1u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with the Chamber of	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue? Yes No D1u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with the Chamber of Commerce (WKO)?	
D1u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue? Yes No D1u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with the Chamber of Commerce (WKO)? Positive	

D2u1\_1 Have you ever contacted the Social Insurance House (SVS)?

Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D2u1_1 Yes got to D2u1_2	
D2u1_2 Were you able to communicate with them in your mother	
tongue?	
Yes	
No	
FILTER: If D2u1_2 No got to D2u1_3	
D2u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with	
them in your mother tongue?	
Yes	
No	
ĨŇŬ	
D2u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with the Social Insurance House (SVS)?	
Positive	
Somewhat positive	
Somewhat negative	
Negative	
D2u6_1 Do you have debts or additional payments to make to the	
Social Insurance House (SVS)?	
Yes	Π
No	
D2u6_2 Do you have any other problems with the Social Insurance $H_{2}$	
House (SVS)?	_
Yes	
No	
FILTER: If D2u6_2 Yes got to D2u6t	
D2u6t You have stated that you have other problems with	
the Social Insurance House (SVS). What are those?	

D3u1\_1 Have you ever contacted the fiscal authorities ("Finanzamt")?

Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D3u1_1 Yes got to D3u1_2		
D3u1_2 Were you able to communicate with them in your moth tongue?	ier	
Yes		
No		
FILTER: If D3u1_2 No go to D3u1_3		
D3u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate w them in your mother tongue?	ith	
Yes		
No		
D3u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with the fise authorities ("Finanzamt")?	cal	
Positive		
Somewhat positive		
Somewhat negative		
Negative		
Have you encountered problems with the fiscal authorities ("Finanzamt") regarding		
	Yes	No
D3u5_D3u5a payment of child benefit ("Familienbeihilfe")?		
D3u5_D3u5b your tax return?		
D3u5_D3u5c other reasons?		
FILTER: If D3u5_D3u5c Yes go to D3u5t		

D3u5t You answered that you have encountered other

problems, what would those be?

D4u1\_1 Have you ever contacted Vidaflex about issues related to your live-in carework?

Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D4u1_1 Yes got to D4u1_2	
D4u1_2 Were you able to communicate with them in tongue?	your mother
Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D4u1_2 No go to D4u1_3 D4u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to comm them in your mother tongue?	unicate with
Yes	
No	
D4u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with Vidafle	ex?
Positive	
Somewhat positive	
Somewhat negative	
Negative	

D5u1\_1 Have you ever contacted IG24 (consisting of DREPT and Inciativa24) about issues related to your live-in carework?

Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D5u1_1 Yes go to D5u1_2	
D5u1_2 Were you able to communicate with them in your mother tongue?	
Yes	
No	

FILTER: If D5u1_2 No go to D5u1_3	
D5u1_3 Would it be important for you to be able to communicate with them in your mother tongue?	
Yes	
No	
D5u4 Overall, how was your experience so far with IG24 (or "DREPT pentru îngrijire")?	
Positive	
Somewhat positive	
Somewhat negative	
Negative	
D5u5_1 What support (in your mother tongue) would you like to receive from public authorities and professional interest groups in Austria? Please select all the options that apply to you. Support regarding issues with the placement agency Support regarding issues with the client or their relatives Support regarding issues with the SVS Social Insurance House	
Support regarding issues with the fiscal authorities (e.g. with the tax return, with the child benefit)	
Support regarding issues with the Commerce Chamber (WKO)	
Legal support	
Other kinds of support	
FILTER: If D5u5_1 Other kinds of support go to D5u5t D5u5t You answered that you would like to receive other	
kinds of support, what would those be?	
Knowledge about regulations for live-in careworkers in Austria D6 Do you feel sufficiently well informed about regulations for live-in carework in Austria?	
Yes	

165	
Mostly yes	
Mostly no	
No	

FILTER: If A8 self-employed to to D7		
D7 Do you feel sufficiently well informed about the following topics:	Yes	No
Issues related to the commercial licence ("Gewerbe"), e.g. registration, pausing, reactivation and cancellation of the commercial licence ("Gewerbe")		
Which tasks you are allowed to perform and which you are not		
Your rights in case of illness		
Your rights in case of an accident at work		
Your rights with respect to dependent children (e.g. child benefit)		
Your retirement rights		
Issues related to your tax return		
Issues related to your SVS Social Insurance House contributions		

### FILTER: If A8 employee go to D8

### D8 Do you feel sufficiently well informed about the following topics:

o you feel sufficiently well informed about the following topics:		
	Yes	No
Provisions of the Labour Code		
Regulations related to working hours, break times, minimum wage, etc.		
Which tasks you are allowed to perform and which you are not		
Your rights in case of illness		
Your rights in case of an accident at work		
Your rights with respect to dependent children (e.g. child benefit)		
Your unemployment rights		
Your retirement rights		

#### D9u1 Do you agree or disagree with these statements?

	Stimme voll und ganz zu	Stimme eher zu	Stimme eher nicht zu	Stimme überha upt nicht zu
The laws and regulations regarding live-in carework are clear and easy for me to understand.				
I feel well protected by live-in carework laws and regulations.				

#### E. Demands for the future

## E1 For the future, what would be particularly important to you as a live in careworker in Austria?

	Very important	Import- ant	Some- what impor- tant	Not import- ant at all
Regulated daily working hours				
Observance of daily breaks				
Higher pay				
Paid sick leave				
Unemployment benefit				
Higher pensions				
Appreciation from clients and their relatives				

# E2 As for placement agencies, how important are the following issues for your future in Austria:

	Very important	Import- ant	Some- what impor- tant	Not import- ant at all
Stricter regulation of the responsibilities/activities of placement agencies				
More flexibility in negotiating working conditions				
Independent inspections of placement agencies				
Establishment of state-owned or non- profit placement agencies				
Independent inspections of working and living conditions of live-in careworkers				

### E3 And as for the Austrian authorities and professional interest groups, how important are the following are to you:

	Very important	Import- ant	Some- what impor- tant	Not import- ant at all
Information and advice in mother tongue regarding the rights and obligations of independent live-in careworkers				
Legal assistance in mother tongue				
Non-discriminatory behaviour				

E4 Where do you see yourself in three years?				
	Very likely	Likely	Some- what likely	Not very likely
In Austria, as a live-in careworker				
As a live-in careworker, but not in Austria				
Doing another job				
Retired				

#### Thank you for participating in the survey!

If you have any questions or encounter technical problems, please contact Andreas Schadauer (FORBA), preferably in German or English, at: umfrage@forba.at

For more information on this project, please visit: https://24h-unsichtbar.at/en/

www.24h-unsichtbar.at