

VareseNews

Disable workers increase by 67% among the cooperatives in the Italian region of Lombardy

Pubblicato: Mercoledì 13 Novembre 2019



In Lombardy, the cooperative system continues and the employment of people who suffer from disabilities keeps on growing. The data of Unioncamere (an Italian institution that helps the Chamber of Commerce, Agriculture, Industries and Craftsmanship), reworked by Polis Lombardy (an institution of the region Lombardy that supports its policies) show in fact the drop in the cooperatives who have no disabled employees and an increase of 67% of the employees with disabilities. **What contributes more to this result are the needs of big companies, who often resort to cooperatives in order to respect the legal obligations.**

In fact, with the emanation of the legislative decree Job's act, from the 1st January 2018 it became obligatory to hire a certain number of people who suffer from disabilities for companies who have more than 14 employees. In particular, the companies with between 15 and 35 employees must have at least one disabled employee, those with between 36 and 50 employees must have two disabled employees, whereas the companies who have more than 50 employees must have a number of disabled employees equal to the 7% of the available places. Out of 18,600 cooperative companies registered in Lombardy (who form the 13% of the total in Italy), **the highest number is in Monza e Brianza and in Bergamo. As for the industry, storage and transport (18%) are the most involved.**

“The cooperative,” said Alessandro Mattinzoli, councilor for the development of the economy of the region, during the first regional press conference of the cooperative in Lombardy, “is a model that is

still current but to win the challenge of innovation, it has to understand its weaknesses, without losing its DNA, that is the diffusion of the wellness in the whole social fabric”. “The role of the cooperatives,” added Fabio Rolfi, councilor for the agriculture, alimentation and green system, “is also important in the food farming industry. **The cooperatives produce more or less 60% of milk in Lombardy and in view of the next plan of rural development we will have a conversation with them to tackle the topics of environmental sustainability, concept of the supply chain and reduction in red tape.**”

“The extended and abundant world of cooperatives,” explained Melania Rizzoli, councilor for education, formation and work, “is interesting especially for the hiring of people who are more fragile, that is a great opportunity.” “The social cooperative,” concluded Stefano Bolognini, councilor for the social policies, “represents an important economic and social phenomena, that translates into the capability of giving concrete answers to the needs that our territories manifest.”

di Translated by Dario Germano (Reviewed by Prof. Robert Clarke)