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## Hundreds of European Patent Office employees take action against director's 'tyranny'



THE HAGUE - More than four hundred employees of the European Patent Office (EPO) in Rijswijk will be taking action against their director Benoît Battistelli on Thursday at Square 1813 (Plein 1813) in The Hague. The reason for this action is the poor relationship between the staff and director.

According to the employees, they have [been weighed down for years](#) by 'the yoke' of their director. 'Battistelli rules with an iron fist and does not tolerate input or contradiction. He dismisses people as he pleases, demotes them, makes unilateral changes to the working conditions and is therefore demotivating the whole organisation,' according to the FNV trade union.

With the demonstration at Square 1813, employees are calling on State Secretary Martijn van Dam (Economic Affairs) to take action against Battistelli.