



International
Labour
Organization

*“Decent Work can lift
whole communities out
of poverty and underpins
human security and
social peace...
It is not just a goal –
it is a driver of sustainable
development”*



Guy Ryder,
ILO Director-General



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

The UN agency for the world of work

International Labour Organization

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A bit of history



Promoting Decent Work for All



1919



The ILO is founded as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended the First World War, to reflect the belief that universal and lasting peace cannot be achieved without social justice.

The ILO has 187 member States and is the oldest UN agency.

The ILO's Secretariat has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and a global network of technical experts and field offices in more than 40 countries.

The International Labour Conference (ILC) meets once a year to adopt new international labour standards and to approve the ILO's work plan and budget.

The Governing Body is the executive council of the ILO and meets three times a year in Geneva.

The ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO)

is the United Nations agency for the world of work. It sets international labour standards, promotes rights at work and encourages decent employment opportunities, the enhancement of social protection and the strengthening of dialogue on work-related issues. The ILO has a unique structure, bringing together governments, employers' and workers' representatives.

The Declaration of Philadelphia states that labour is not a commodity and establishes basic human and economic rights for States to uphold.



1944

1946



The ILO becomes the first specialized agency of the United Nations.

The Organization is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.



1969

1998



The Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work creates a set of core labour standards.

The Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization expresses the contemporary vision of the ILO's mandate in the era of globalization.



2008

2015



Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development places decent work for all at the heart of policies for sustainable and inclusive growth and development.

Creating jobs

- promoting economies that generate opportunities for investment, entrepreneurship, skills development, job creation and sustainable livelihoods.

Guaranteeing rights at work

- obtaining recognition and respect for the rights of workers. All workers, and in particular disadvantaged or poor workers, need representation, participation and laws that protect their rights.

Extending social protection

- ensuring that women and men enjoy working conditions that are safe, allow adequate free time and rest, take into account family and social values, provide for adequate compensation in case of lost or reduced income and permit access to adequate health care.

Promoting social dialogue

- strong and independent workers' and employers' organizations are central to increasing productivity, avoiding disputes at work and building cohesive societies.