

The challenge of inequality

Migrant workers

The challenge of inequality

- In search of decent work
- 232 million people living outside of their countries
- Migration is a labour issue
- And a growing but stable phenomenon

The challenge of inequality

- 20.9 million victims of forced labour
- Migrant workers at risk of trafficking and forced labour.
- Remember Lampedusa

The challenge of inequality

- **Wages**
- **Unemployment**
- **Social security**
- **Health and Safety**
- **Freedom of association**
- **Discrimination**

The challenge of inequality

- At greater risk:
- Migrant workers in irregular situation
- Temporary migrant workers
- Domestic workers

The challenge of inequality

Migrant workers in irregular situation

- Live in fear of being reported/deported
- Limited access to rights and remedies
- More vulnerable to exploitation

Ill-conceived migration policies

- Criminalization of migration
- Restrictive policies

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Temporary migration programmes
or Circular migration schemes

- Temporary workers fill permanent jobs
- Tension with International labour standards
- Obstacles to Freedom of Association
- A recipe for precarious work

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Domestic Workers

- Particularly vulnerable
- Excluded from protection

Convention 189

- Challenge of equal treatment
- Challenge of organizing

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The ILO's response:

- A rights-based approach

Equal treatment lies at the heart

- Non-discrimination
- Treatment no less favourable than nationals
- Equal opportunity
- Protection against abuses

The challenge of inequality

- ILO instruments
- Convention 111
- Convention 97
- Convention 143
- Convention 181
- Convention 189
- + The UN Convention

The challenge of inequality

- Instruments exist
- No need to re-invent the wheel
- Need for action
- ILO:
- Renewed commitment
- Mandate/Actors/Instruments/Process

The challenge of inequality

Role of trade unions

- Promote ratification
- Ensure effective implementation
- Build on minimum standards
- Combat racism and xenophobia
- Organize and protect migrant workers