



Permanent Observer
Mission of the Holy See



World Council
of Churches



Caritas in Veritate Foundation

"Authentic development must foster the development of each man and the whole man."



*The Future of Work,
Labour After Laudato Si*

**Special Event on the occasion of the
Centenary of the International Labour Organization
on
“Rethinking Labour and the Future of Work -
An Interreligious Perspective”**

25 February 2019, 2 - 5 pm

International Labour Organization (Room XI)

The International Labour Organization (ILO), the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, the Permanent Delegation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, the World Council of Churches, the *Caritas in Veritate* Foundation, and the Project “The future of work, labour after *Laudato Si*” are organizing a Special Event in the context of the commemoration of the Centenary of the ILO on the following theme: “Rethinking Labour and the Future of Work - an Interreligious Perspective”.

Date and Venue

The event will take place on Monday 25th February 2019, from 2 -5 pm at the premises of the ILO in Room XI in Geneva.

Context

2019 will mark the Centenary of the ILO, whose Constitution states that “whereas universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice [...] and whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, hardship and privation to large number of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperiled”.¹ In the run up to the 100 years, seven “Centenary Initiatives” have been introduced aimed at addressing the challenges of its social justice mandate in the future. One of these is “The Future of Work Initiative.”

The future of work is one of the biggest challenges of our century and an important topic for all religious convictions. Currently, there is a fundamental change underway, which requires in-depth reconsideration of what labour is and what it means for the economy, society, policy-making, individual and collective decision-makers and the human being in general. Labour should mean participating and contributing to an

¹ http://www.ilo.ch/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:62:0::NO:62:P62_LIST_ENTRIE_ID:2453907:NO#A1

inclusive society. We are now living in the age of sustainable development, the basic idea of which posits that it is no longer sufficient to measure human progress in terms of economic growth and the accumulation of material wealth. True development must rest on three legs: economic development, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

Goals and Aims

“New forces are transforming the world of work. The transitions involved call for decisive action”². This interreligious event therefore proposes a human centered agenda for the future of work.

Religious traditions have been engaged for long in the reflexion on the future of our humanity, placing human dignity at the center of their preoccupation, based on the firm conviction that humans have the responsibility and the capacity to decide on a future for all, based on discernment for the common good.

The event, which is going to be divided into two panels, will allow the faith traditions to bring their convictions and visions forward as well as provide illustration of their concrete commitment in favour of the dignity of work and of the workers.

Programme and Speakers

Panel 1: High-level section on interfaith perspectives, visions and convictions (2 - 3:30 pm)

Introductory Remarks (5min)

Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization

Moderator

His Excellency Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

A Catholic Perspective on the Future of Work (10min)

Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States, Secretariat of State, Vatican

Title TBC (10min)

Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary, World Council of Churches

OIC vision on labor (10min)

Her Excellency Ms. Nassima Baghli, Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations

Title TBC (10min)

Mr. Eric Ackermann, Cantor at the Grande Beth Yaacov Synagogue Geneva and President of the Platform for Interreligious Dialogue Geneva (PFIR Genève)

Title TBC (10min)

Mr. Michel Aguilar, Former Representative of the European Buddhist Union (EBU) in the Council of Europe, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee of the INGO Conference.

² <https://www.ilo.org/infostories/en-GB/Campaigns/future-work/global-commission#intro>

Panel 2: Inter-faith collaborations on the ground for the promotion of decent work in the context of the future of work (3:30 - 5 pm)

Title TBC (10min)

Ms. Hala Athanasioious, Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical and Social Services (BLESS)

Title TBC (10min)

Mrs. Toure Diabate Tenin, Sociologist, Professor at the University of Cocody in Abijan, President of the National Network of Muslim Women in Africa

Title TBC (10min)

Paul H. Dembinski, University of Fribourg, Observatoire de la Finance

Title TBC (10min)

Dr. Hildegard Hagemann, German Commission for Justice and Peace and Representative of Kolping International at the International Labour Organization

Title TBC (10min)

Mrs. Nelida Ancora, Delegate for the Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue, International Christian Union of Business Executives (UNIAPAC)

The future of work, trade unions and faith based organizations dialogue, initiatives and lessons learnt (10min)

Ms. Silvana Capuccio, European and International policies, Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (CGIL)

Target Audience

Wide participation is invited to the event, including Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva, officials and staff of the ILO and UN agencies and other multilateral and intergovernmental organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives of the different religious groups, the private sector, media representatives, as well as the general public.

Organizers

- International Labour Organization
- Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva
- Permanent Delegation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
- World Council of Churches
- *Caritas in Veritate* Foundation
- Project "The future of work, labour after *Laudato Si'*"

Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English and French.

Reception

A reception will take place at the Goblin Restaurant at 5:00 p.m.