6th World Day for Decent Work

The Trade Union Confederation of the Americas - TUCA, invites all its affiliated institutions to celebrate, on October 07, the 6th World Day for Decent Work with the motto of "Building Workers' Power in the Americas".

On October 07, the trade union movement worldwide will celebrate, once again, the World Day for Decent Work. The American continent has been, over the last years, the region that has fought the most against the deteriorating quality of life of millions of workers, preventing international economic and financial crises to be used as pretext for the adoption of precarious working conditions.

TUCA has the goal of continuing to make America the continent that mobilizes the most and invites all its affiliated institutions and organizations so that, on October 07, the largest and most numerous activities in the world are held.

TUCA began the "Continental Campaign of TUCA on Freedom of Association, Collective Bargaining and Trade Union Self-Reform", with the goal of contributing to stimulating strategic goals of the Decent Work Agenda, as observed by the Declaration on Social Justice towards a Fair Globalization, of 2008, particularly in the defense and promotion of principles and rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining, pillars of decent work, expressed in ILO conventions.

The Continental Campaign has the goal of touching workers, unionists, politicians, businessmen and owners of public opinion means, regarding the need to respect and achieve the essential principles and rights of Conventions 87 and 98 to ease initiatives of strategic self reform of trade unions: rates of increase of unionization, the extension of coverage and increase of collective bargaining, a reinforcement of sector and territory structures, and highest levels of union unity.

Under the context of this campaign it is aimed to providing a greater support to the activities that the union movement is organizing to demand Decent Work on October 7. In order to achieve that, we encourage our affiliated and fraternal organizations to mobilize as many people as possible and organize more activities for the World Day for Decent Work.

Inform CSA on the activities planned at the address derechoshumanos@csa.csi.org
UGT discusses strategies with multinational companies

UGT's Department of Integration for the Americas held the International Seminar "Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras Construindo Estratégias Globais frente ao poder das Multinacionais" (Workers Building Global Strategies against the power of Multinational Companies), on September 17 and 18, in São Paulo.

While opening the seminar, Ricardo Patah, national president of UGT, thanked the presence of Adriana Rosenzvaig, Regional Secretary of UNI Global Union Americas, Victor Baez, from the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas - TUCA, and spoke of the importance of holding this event, which will discuss the employment status of multinational companies workers, affirming that having knowledge of this information will allow the strengthening of UGT leaders in the fight against precarious work. "We cannot allow that Brazil, a country that has the 6th largest world economy, depend on precarious work to grow in the international scenario", and Patah made it clear that UGT will now allow the approval of the law project 4330, which deals with outsourcing, as it is, because it might reach direct and negatively many classes.

The following people were also at the opening table: Francisco Canindé Pegado, UGT's secretary general; Sidney de Paula Corral, UGT's secretary of integration to the Americas; Otton da Costa Mata Roma, UGT's International Affairs Secretary; Francisco Pereira de Sousa Filho (Chiquinho), UGT's secretary of trade union organization and policies; Cássia Buffeli, secretary of UGT's Woman Department and Josineide de Camargo, assistant secretary of UGT's Education Department.

To Sidney de Paula Corral, holding this event was important to UGT's unionists since it gives room for knowledge of the international labour scenario. Corral also emphasizes that, in this globalized world, actions cannot take place in an isolated way, and a combined action with international trade union organs and institutions strengthens the fight against precarious work and the defense of labour rights. (Giselle Corrêa, from UGT's newsroom)

In Belo Horizonte, UGT makes a protest against Nissan

On September 26, UGT's State branch of Minas Gerais held a large protest in front of the Nissan Miazaki dealership, in downtown Belo Horizonte. Led by Ricardo Patah, UGT's national president, this protest was supported by 150 commerce workers and metallurgists.

"This movement is not against Nissan here in Brazil, it is, in fact, against Nissan USA, which does not allow its workers to join their respective trade unions".

"Our trade union central was looked up, not too long ago, to show solidarity and participate in events against Nissan in Brazil until our claims are answered. We already held an act in Curitiba, another one in São Paulo, and today we are holding one in Belo Horizonte", stated Ricardo Patah.

Metallurgists from UGT, who attended the 1st National Meeting of Metallurgists Unions of UGT, participated, along with commerce workers, in this act, which drew the attention of everyone who was passing by in the Dom Pedro II avenue, in front of the Nissan dealership.

Delson Oliveira, national secretary of UGT's Department of Metallurgists, said that "the fight of American workers is also the fight of Brazilians. He also said that it is "unacceptable that in the XXI century, a company as Nissan is to deny workers a trade union representation and collective bargaining, especially in the USA".
The action of UGT in the regulation of outsourcing

UGT has attended all meetings, events and everything else that is related to the regulation of outsourcing. It is important for workers that this central is leading this fight, since there is no law to prohibit it, there is also not a law that regulates outsourcing, which can also lead to situations of precarious work, once businessmen consider outsourcing a way to increase their profit and not their competitiveness.

We cannot have a simplistic view of being against something that involves 12 million workers and is somehow consolidated as labour organization, but we cannot allow that labour organizations are disorganized.

We are wary to the possibility of vote of the Law Project 4330 in order to avoid that the clause that allows outsourcing in any activity of a company is approved. In this concern, UGT established its position against the outsourcing of a company’s core activity, understanding that the activity that responds for the existence of the company cannot be distorted. It is not only about a trade union request, but still, a way to guarantee a productive model for our country.

It is essential to follow up the mobilization of all our colleagues, since there is an enormous interest of a quick vote of the law project 4330 and we cannot allow it to be approved the way it is. Therefore, opinion, protest and mobilization are essential.

We are available to answer additional questions to all our colleagues

The number of children who work decreases

A new report by the International Labour Organization (ILO), marking progress against child labour, says that the global number of child labourers has declined by one third since 2000, from 246 million to 168 million. But even the latest improved rate of decline is not enough to achieve the goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 – agreed by the international community through the ILO.

“We are moving in the right direction but progress is still too slow. If we are serious about ending the scourge of child labour in the foreseeable future, we need a substantial stepping-up of efforts at all levels. There are 168 million good reasons to do so,” said ILO Director-General Guy Ryder.

The latest ILO estimates, published in the lead-up to the Global Conference on Child Labour, which takes place in Brasilia next month, show that most of the progress was made between 2008 and 2012, when the global number fell from 215 to 168 million.

More than half of the 168 million child labourers worldwide are involved in hazardous work. This is work that directly endangers their health, safety and moral development. The current number of children in hazardous work stands at 85 million, down from 171 million in 2000.

Hazardous work is often treated as a proxy for the Worst Forms of Child Labour, since children in hazardous work account for the overwhelming majority of those in the worst forms.

The report identifies a number of actions that have driven progress in the fight against child labour in recent years. Policy choices and accompanying investments in education and social protection appear particularly relevant to the decline in child labour.

Other actions include the political commitment of governments, the increasing number of ratifications of the two ILO child labour Conventions, sound policy choices and solid legislative frameworks.

Check the full report
UGT in the Latin American meeting of domestic workers

UGT, through its Woman department and affiliated institutions, attended the 1st Latin American Meeting of Domestic Workers from the Southern Cone, held on September 19 and 20 in Ciudad del Leste, Paraguay.

This meeting had the mottos: “The legal ratification of ILO Convention 189, which deals with domestic workers rights”; domestic child labour and “human trafficking and its relation with domestic work”.

This meeting was also useful to prepare a document with the goal of consolidating the implementation of ILO Convention 189 and other issues that deal with domestic work and trade union matters. (UGT Paraná)

4th Congress of the União Trade Union in Sao Paulo

The trade union União of workers of the Judicial Power of the State of Sao Paulo holds its 4th theme congress "Justice in the democratic state of law", which takes place in the Summer Camp of the Commerce Workers Union of Sao Paulo in Praia Grande.

Lineu Mazano, secretary general of the confederation of public servants of Brazil (CSPB), Ademir Camilo (PSD/MG), federal deputy, Carlos Eduardo Karan (PDT/SP), city councillor and the professor Anselmo Santos (UNIESP) attended the first day of debates on September 26.

Watch the video>>

According to Lineu Mazano, it is extremely important attending an event like this one. "Participating in this congress, organized by the União trade union, is really important especially due to this topic: Justice in the democratic state of law. This is the main foundation we search for, because we search for everything that is better for the worker”, he concluded.

UGT's brand new webpage

UGT's website has a new layout, with much more information

Check it out at www.ugt.org.br