



# The ILO...

## *International Labor Organisation*

**Ahmet SALTİK, MD**

*Professor of Public Health*

*LLM: Health Law*

*BSc: Public Administration & Political Sciences*



The critical mission of the ILO is to promote **social justice** and internationally recognized human and **labour rights**, pursuing its founding mission that social justice is essential to universal and lasting peace.

*Phase 1 lecture, 2023 - 2024  
academic year, Autumn semester  
28th Dec. 2023, Ankara - TURKIYE*



*“A permanent and universal peace can only be established on the basis of **social justice.**”*

**ILO Philadelphia Declaration -1944**



**ILO Leaflet**

# Learning Objectives

At the end of this lecture, you'll be able to answer, to understand.....;

- What is ILO – The International Labor Organisation?
- What are the main missions of the ILO?*
- What is the status of the ILO before International Law and The UN – United Nations?
- How does The ILO work in order to fulfill its essential functions?*
- What are the crucial contributions of the ILO on working classes)
- What are the ILO Conventions and Recommendations?*
- How work the mutual relationships between the ILO & the member countries?
- Is Turkiye the member of the ILO and the nature of bilateral ties?



# Discovering the International Labour Organisation

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes social justice and promotes decent work opportunities for everyone.



# History of the ILO

The ILO was founded in 1919, following the aftermath of World War I, to promote social justice and improve working conditions worldwide. Over 100 years later, the organization continues to work towards creating a fair and inclusive global economy.

## 1 — The Founding Years

The ILO was born out of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, and it established a unique tripartite structure involving governments, employers, and workers in decision-making.

## 2 — Global Expansion

The ILO expanded its work to include the improvement of working conditions, including fighting against forced labor, child labor, and discrimination in the workplace.

## 3 — The Present Day

Today, the ILO plays a vital role in global policy discussions and carries out important research and advocacy work towards achieving decent work for all.

# ILO's View on Health Services

- Health services are one of the fundamental sectors of society and the economy.
- The ILO endorses the fundamental principles of the **human right to health** and **social security**.
- Decent working conditions for health workers are essential to provide health services and to ensure that all members of society have access to social **health protection**.
- The lack of capacity to provide health services has significant effects on individual and public health, **poverty**, income generation, labour market productivity, economic growth and development.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/industries-and-sectors/health-services/lang--en/index.htm>, 18.4.15



# Universal Health Coverage

## The ILO's Mission and Objectives

The ILO's mission is to promote social justice and promote decent work opportunities for everyone. The organization works towards ensuring that everyone has access to good-quality employment, social protection, and workers' rights, regardless of their background, education, or social status.

### Job Security

The ILO seeks to create opportunities for secure employment, under conditions of freedom, equity, human dignity, and social protection.

### Workers' Rights

The ILO is committed to promoting the recognition of workers' rights and protecting them from exploitation and discrimination.

### Equality

The ILO promotes gender equality and the elimination of *all forms of discrimination* in the workplace.



# ILO's View on Health Services

- While the *burden of disease* and the demand for health services varies in each community, the affordability of health care challenges most countries.
- *Therefore, many governments have considered or implemented wide-spread reforms of their health care systems, re-shaping the employment environment for health care workers.*

<http://www.ilo.org/global/industries-and-sectors/health-services/lang--en/index.htm>, 18.4.15

# ILO's View on Health Services

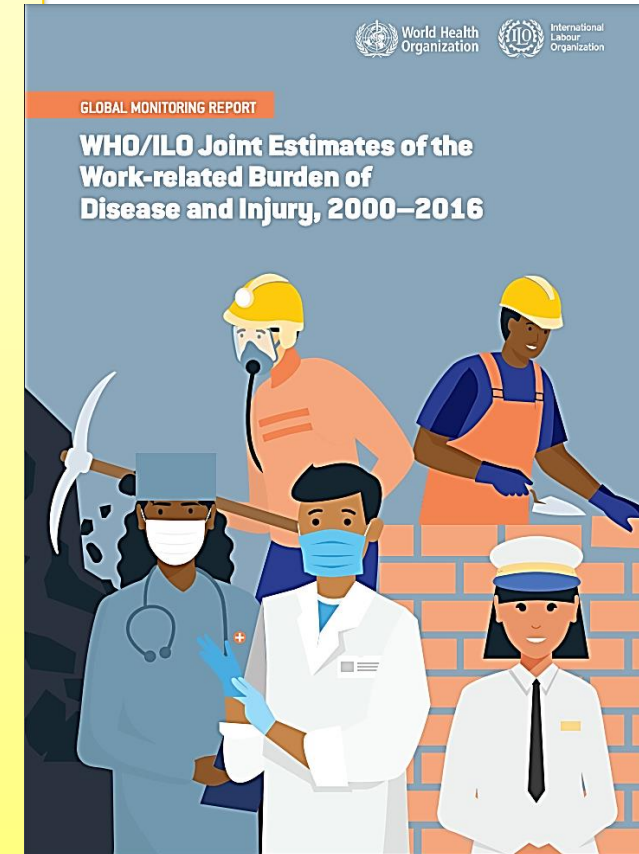
- In addition to promoting *social health protection* for all workers, the ILO supports better working conditions for health workers through sectoral labour standards and **social dialogue**.
- *The shortage of trained health workers coincides with longer life expectancies, increasing use of specialized medical technology and the rise of new and drug resistant diseases.*

<http://www.ilo.org/global/industries-and-sectors/health-services/lang--en/index.htm>, 18.4.15

# ILO's View on Health Services

- ❖ Meanwhile, hospitals and other health facilities are rarely considered as workplaces.
- ❖ As the demand for health services grows and the shortage of qualified health personnel becomes more severe, working conditions deteriorate and the quality of health care may be jeopardised.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/industries-and-sectors/health-services/lang--en/index.htm>, 18.4.15



# ILO's View on Health Services

- The critical shortage of workers in the poorest countries is further exacerbated by wealthier countries offering better **working conditions** to migrant health workers.
- **ILO collaborates with WHO** to address these challenges by recognizing health facilities as unique work environments and encouraging improvements of working conditions so that health workers are encouraged and supported to provide high quality care in their own communities.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/industries-and-sectors/health-services/lang--en/index.htm>, 18.4.15

# The Role of the ILO in Promoting Decent Work and Social Justice

The ILO plays a crucial role in promoting social justice and supporting decent work worldwide.

One example is their advocacy for green jobs, which can help create sustainable economic growth while also preserving the environment.



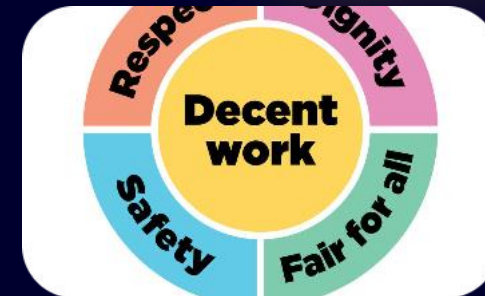
## Green Jobs

The ILO supports policies that promote green jobs and help create a more sustainable future for workers and their families.



## Child Labor

The ILO is working to eliminate child labor worldwide, providing support for children and their families while also advocating for the ratification of international conventions.



## Decent Work

The ILO promotes the creation of decent and dignified employment opportunities for all, regardless of their gender, background, or social status.

# ILO Conventions and Standards

The ILO has developed a set of international labor standards that promote social justice and help to create a more equal and sustainable world. These conventions cover a wide range of issues, including forced labor, child labor, and freedom of association.

## Forced Labor Convention (1930)

The ILO works to eliminate all forms of forced labor, including modern-day slavery, debt bondage, and human trafficking.

## Child Labor Convention (1973)

The ILO seeks to eradicate child labor worldwide and ensure that all children have access to education and a bright future.

## Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)

The ILO promotes the rights of people with disabilities and works to eliminate discrimination in the workplace and society as a whole.

# Prevention

## Prevention Science :

*A multidisciplinary field devoted to the scientific study of the theory, research, and practice related to the **prevention of social, physical, and mental health** problems, including etiology, epidemiology, and intervention.\**

\*IOM "Preventing Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders Among Young People: Progress and Possibilities" pg xxvii



# The Impact of the ILO on Global Health and Labor Policies

The ILO has played a vital role in promoting social justice and workers' rights across the globe. Its efforts have led to significant changes in labor policies and practices, and it remains a powerful voice for progress towards a fairer and more equal world.

## Reducing Poverty

The ILO's work towards creating decent work opportunities has helped lift millions of people out of poverty worldwide.

## Protecting Workers' Rights

The ILO's conventions and standards promote the recognition of workers' rights and help protect them from exploitation and discrimination in the workplace.

## Promoting Equality

The ILO is committed to promoting gender equality and the elimination of all forms of discrimination in the workplace.



# Conclusion and Call to Action...

As healthcare professionals, we recognize the importance of decent work opportunities and social justice in promoting good health outcomes for all. We can support the work of the ILO by improving working conditions in our own workplaces, advocating for better labor policies, and supporting organizations that promote social justice and equality worldwide. Let's work together to create a better world for everyone.

## Advocate for Better Policies

- 1 Use your voice to support policies that promote decent work and social justice, and hold policymakers accountable for creating fair and equitable systems.

## Collaborate for Change

- 2 Work with others in your community to advocate for change and create a more equal and just society.

## Support Social Justice Organizations

- 3 Donate your time or resources to organizations that are working to promote social justice and decent work for all.

# In brief....

- ❑ The ILO is the International Labour Organization, a specialized agency of the UN.
- ❑ *It aims to promote **decent work, social justice, and human and labour rights** throughout the World.*
- ❑ The ILO has a unique **tripartite structure** that gives an equal voice to workers, employers, and governments in shaping policies and programmes.
- ❑ *The ILO also sets **international labour standards**, provides technical assistance, conducts research, and monitors the world of work trends.*
- ❑ The ILO was established in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles and is the oldest UN agency.
- ❑ *The ILO has 187 member states and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.*
- ❑ The ILO has won the **Nobel Peace Prize** twice, in 1969 and 2023, for its contributions to peace and social justice.



## European Social Chart, art. 3

*»Workers shall have the right to receive, at regular intervals, a fair remuneration and supplementary allowances, sufficient to maintain a **decent standard of living** for themselves and their families, account being taken of the cost of living in the country or region.»*

*Thank You*