

A **GLOBAL WEBINAR** FOR PREPARING REPORTS AND COMMENTS FOR THE GENERAL SURVEY

WHEN? Wednesday, 13 November (12:00-15:00 CET)

WHERE? Zoom

FREE





BACKGROUND

International labour standards (ILS) are universal instruments adopted by the international community and reflecting common values and principles on work-related issues. While ILO Member States can choose whether or not to ratify any Conventions, the ILO considers it important to keep track of developments in all countries, whether or not they have ratified them.

Under article 19 of the ILO Constitution,¹ Members shall report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body on the position of their law and practice in regard to the matters dealt with in unratified Conventions and in Recommendations. On this basis, the ILO Governing Body selects each year the Conventions and Recommendations on which Member States are requested to supply reports. These reports and the comments received by employers' and workers' organizations, allow the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR) to establish General Surveys on the effect given, in law and in practice, to the instruments considered.

The subjects of General Surveys are aligned with those of the annual recurrent discussions in the International Labour Conference under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization.² General Surveys are published as a separate volume of the CEACR annual report (Report III (Part B)), that is usually adopted in December and submitted to the International Labour Conference the following June, where it is examined by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards (CAN).

General Surveys and the results of their examination by the CAN are helpful in many respects, including when drawing up the Organization's programme of work, particularly in relation to the adoption of any new or revised standards, in assessing the impact and continuing usefulness of the instruments to be reviewed and in providing governments and the social partners with the opportunity to review their policies and implement other measures in areas of major interest, as well as deciding on new ratifications, where appropriate.³

Reports on unratified Conventions and on Recommendations due under article 19 of the ILO Constitution are essential inputs in the assessment of the implementation in law and practice of ILO instruments by the CEACR. However, many national administrations struggle to fulfill this constitutional reporting obligation.⁴

The International Training Centre of the ILO (ITCILO), in collaboration with the International Labour Standards Department (NORMES) and the field Offices, seeks to assist ILO constituents in preparing reports and comments for General Surveys that are informative and that are transmitted on time. It therefore offers a global webinar linked to the General Survey on employment and decent work for peace and resilience to be prepared by the CEACR in 2025 and to be discussed by the CAN in 2026.⁵

¹ Article 19 of the ILO Constitution: https://webapps.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:62:0::NO:62:P62_LIST_ENTRIE_ID:2453907:NO#A19_

² ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization: https://www.ilo.org/resource/ilo-declaration-social-justice-fair-globalization

³ For more information about the procedure to prepare General Surveys, see: (1) Rules of the Game: An introduction to the standards-related work of the International Labour Organization (Centenary Edition 2019): https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/information-resources-and-publications/WCMS 672549/lang--en/index.htm; and (2) Handbook of procedures relating to international labour Conventions and Recommendations (Centenary Edition 2019): https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/information-resources-and-publications/WCMS 697949/lang--en/index.htm.

⁴ E.g., as noted by the CEACR last year, only 124 Governments have provided reports on the position of national law and practice in relation to matters addressed in the two instruments on labour administration examined: 37 reports from Africa, 26 from the Americas, 6 from the Arab States, 18 from Asia and the Pacific and 37 from Europe and Central Asia. The CEACR also took into account the observations submitted by 12 employers' and 24 workers' organizations. (Labour administration in a changing world of work, Report III(B), 2024, para. 24: https://www.ilo.org/resource/conference-paper/labour-administration-changing-world-work). Furthermore, as noted by the CAN in its last report, over the past five years none of the reports on unratified Conventions and Recommendations have been supplied by 16 countries (Report of the Committee on the Application of Standards, Part One, General Report, 2024, para, 178; https://www.ilo.org/resource/record-proceedings/ilc/112/report-committee-application-standards-part-one-general-report-2024).

⁵ At its 349th Session in October-November 2023, the Governing Body decided that the General Survey to be prepared by the CEACR in 2025, and to be discussed by the CAN in 2026 will focus on the Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205) (GB.349/LILS/2/Decision: https://www.ilo.org/resource/record-decisions/qb/349/decision-concerning-choice-conventions-and-recommendations-which-reports).

▶ 2026 GENERAL SURVEY ON EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR PEACE AND RESILIENCE

The General Survey will provide guidance to ILO constituents in preventing and responding to the devastating effects of crises on economies and societies, in a context where a series of unprecedented crises were unfolding. The General Survey will indeed provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of law and practice in respect of employment and decent work for peace and resilience in the current context of crises emerging from natural disasters and geopolitical tensions. The General Survey will also present an opportunity to draw attention to the critical importance of social dialogue in all aspects of a strategic response to crisis situations. Importantly, it will also contribute to a better understanding of the way in which the provisions of the Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205), are implemented both in law and in practice, the challenges and opportunities in relation to the application of the instrument and the needs in terms of technical assistance in this area, and will encourage the sharing of experiences and good practices among Member States. Furthermore, it will provide an opportunity to examine the extent to which the ILO partnerships with other United Nations agencies have an impact on national laws and practice and on related institutions of social dialogue in times of crisis. The General Survey will enable the ILO constituents to assess the impact of Recommendation No. 205 on guiding related policy responses and measures as well as its contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through the realization of multiple Sustainable Development Goals, notably: Goal 5 (gender equality), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Finally, the General Survey will inform the preparation of the forthcoming recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of employment by the International Labour Conference at its 116th Session (2028).6

WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE?

- Government officials responsible for matters relating to ILS, including the fulfilment of the reporting obligations laid down by the ILO Constitution.
- Representatives of employers' and workers' organizations responsible for ILO matters, in particular members of national tripartite committees.
- Officials of the ILO and the United Nations system.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

- To understand the relevance of Recommendation No. 205 in the current context of multiple unprecedented crises.
- To be better equipped to prepare the report under article 19 of the ILO Constitution for the General Survey on employment and decent work for peace and resilience, to prepare related comments, and to participate actively in consultations and discussions on the topic.

WHAT WILL I GAIN?

- Understanding of the procedures for reporting and providing comments for General Surveys and their examination.
- Understanding of the content of Recommendation No. 205 and of the report form approved by the Governing Body for supplying information according to uniform lines for the General Survey.
- Capacity to participate effectively in the procedures and consultations for the General Survey on employment and decent work for peace and resilience.

WHAT ARE THE LANGUAGES OF THE WEBINAR?

The webinar is offered in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese and Russian with simultaneous interpretation, so as to effectively reach all constituents and stakeholders worldwide.

WHAT WILL THE WEBINAR COVER?

- The context and procedure for General Surveys, together with Member States related time-bound obligations.
- The origin, relevance and content of Recommendation No. 205.
- The structure and content of the related report form approved by the Governing Body, with examples of approaches, strategies, activities and measures that can be adopted to implement the instrument.
- The ILO Action Programme and Network on Crisis.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR?

Register at page: https://oarf2.itcilo.org/CST/E9718263/en