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ILO CONSTITUTION

THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

1919

The Preamble of the ILO Constitution states that the Organization's mandate is to improve conditions of labour through, among others,

“the prevention of unemployment, (...) the protection of the worker against sickness, disease, and injury arising out of his employment, the protection of children, young persons and women, provision for old age and injury”.

FROM SOCIAL INSURANCE ...

THE ORGANIZING POWER OF THE FIRST CONVENTIONS

2

1919
-
1939

Add here a definition of Social Insurance

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The “organizing power” of social insurance is the regulation of social insurance based on those principles in national systems which have best stood the test of time. It is a synthesis of all the characteristic trends of the insurance movement. It stimulates States to fresh progress and prevents any tendency to slip back. It is the point round which the national movements are coordinating their progress slowly or occasionally with rapidity, as is proved by recent history.



Albert Thomas
First Director of the ILO, 1919-1932

The first generation standards pertain to the “social insurance era”. Social insurance schemes, which had become widely spread among industrial nations at the beginning of the twentieth century, were based on the principles of compulsory affiliation; administration by nonprofit, self-governing institutions; administrative and financial supervision of the State; and association of insured persons to the management of social insurance institutions. From 1919 to 1939 the ILO adopted 15 Conventions and 11 Recommendations, which affirmed, developed and consolidated the social insurance model on the above principles.

The ILO’s standard-setting activities in the first 20 years carried forward the social insurance model into the law and practice of the majority of the industrialized and industrializing countries, which then formed part of the ILO’s membership

During and immediately after the war, social insurance in many countries had passed through serious crises. The rise in the cost of living, not always followed by a rise in wages, had reduced the efficiency of existing social insurance schemes. Pushed by a growing labour movement that was reinforced after the war, major reforms and legislative innovation were driven by national governments in various member States.

The standards developed between the wars had one common characteristic: they did not cover (yet) the whole population, but only specific sectors and categories of workers (industry, agriculture, migrant or maritime workers). Each standard covered a specific risk.

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...TO SOCIAL SECURITY (1944–1964)

A UNIFIED SYSTEM

1944

Recommendations on
Income security
and
Medical care

Add here a definition of
Social Security

The Second World War was a crucial period of transition for the global landscape of welfare reform. It triggered fundamental changes in social and economic life and its underlying paradigms, articulating a vision of a just and democratic post-war world.

During the Second World War, the ILO shifted away from its traditional discourse on social insurance to a more integrated concept of universal coverage.

The shift in ILO thinking to social security paved the way for the debates in the International Labour Conference of 1944 and the Declaration of Philadelphia.

In 1944, the International Labour Conference meeting in Philadelphia, adopted recommendations: The Income Security Recommendation and the Medical Care Recommendation. They are at the origin of the development of social security in ILO instruments and can be considered the blueprint for comprehensive social security systems. Together, they establish a comprehensive system of income security and medical care protection for each of the nine classical branches of social security in addition to general neediness, with the objective of relieving want and preventing destitution. The Recommendations are grounded on the guiding principle of universal coverage, following which income security and medical care services should be extended to the population as a whole through a combination of social insurance and social assistance.

“A few years ago social security was little more than a slogan, a bare outline of an idea; today the slogan stands for a wide-visionned, constructive programme; and tomorrow the programme will have become an accomplished fact if humanity remains free and follows the road of progress. (1941)

Oswald Stein
Chief of the ILO's Social Insurance Department

1948

**Social Security
Is a fundamental
Human Right**

“Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 22,
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1952

Adoption of the ILO Flagship Social Security Convention N°102: Minimum Standards of Social Security

The aftermath of the Second World War saw a rapid increase in the number of countries that introduced or extended social security measures. As part of their reconstruction efforts, they systematically made efforts to assure income protection for their citizens.

The ILO's approach to social security in the context of the emerging welfare state is most clearly demonstrated in the Convention on Minimum Standards of Social Security (No. 102), adopted in 1952.

It brought together the whole range of branches that had been dealt with in different standards of the interwar period. It identified a set of flexible, globally-applicable minimum standards for nine contingencies: medical care; sickness; unemployment; old-age; employment injury; maternity; invalidity; survivors; and family allowances. For each of these, it fixed a minimum level of protection in terms of the population covered and the benefits guaranteed, together with common organizational and management principles. The Convention also laid down the principal methods of enlarging the scope of social security systems, on the basis of statistical criteria, by distinguishing three categories of protection: for employed persons; for the economically active population; and for all residents with means below a certain level.

By extending the coverage and scope of international protection to broader categories of persons, Convention No. 102 incorporated the idea that every human being had the right to social security. This right to a minimum of social security became a cornerstone of ILO post-war policy.

Minimum standards for nine branches:

- medical care
- sickness
- unemployment
- old-age
- Employment injury
- maternity
- invalidity
- survivors
- Family allowances

ADVANCED STANDARDS OFFERING HIGHER LEVEL OF PROTECTION

IN TERMS OF POPULATION COVERED AND BENEFIT LEVELS

4

1962

Convention N° 118:
Equality of treatment

1964

Convention N° 121:
Employment Injury
Benefits

1967

Convention N° 128:
Invalidity, Old-age
and Survivors

1969

Convention N° 130:
Medical care and Sickness

1982

Convention N° 157:
Maintenance of Social Security
Rights

1988

Convention N° 168:
Employment Promotion and
Unemployment Protection

2000

Convention N° 183:
Maternity Protection

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THE ROAD TO UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PROTECTION

The Asian financial crisis in 1997–98 showed the dramatic consequences of underdeveloped social protection systems and demonstrated that good economic performance in itself is not enough to assure social welfare.

In this context, the ILO reiterated its approach to social security, focusing on a general extension to people who were not yet covered. The issue of “social security for all” took the debate.

One of the key global problems facing social security is the fact that more than half of the world’s population is excluded from any type of social security protection, mostly in the developing world. Those outside the formal labour market are beyond the reach of social security legislation, except for basic social assistance schemes in the more advanced countries. In the industrialized countries (including the economies of Central and Eastern Europe), social security systems face new demographic challenges, such as ageing and changing family structures, with important implications for the financing of social security.

The “new consensus” that came out of the 2001 International Labour Conference consisted of the reaffirmation that social security was a basic human right. The Conference noted that certain groups had different needs and some had very low contributory capacity. The highest priority should therefore be given to policies and initiatives that brought social security to those not covered by existing schemes.

2001

A New Consensus

In 2001 it was agreed that the ILO’s strategy for the extension of social security should be closely linked to its employment strategy and to other social policies. This is one of the essential features of the Decent Work Agenda, adopted by the ILO in 1999. An integrated approach linking social security with other labour market issues in order to provide income security for a wider fraction of population.

Add here a definition of Social Protection

2012

Recommendation N° 202: Social Protection Floors

Recommendation N° 202 provides guidance on closing social security gaps and achieving universal coverage through the establishment and maintenance of comprehensive social security systems.

It calls upon States to achieve universal coverage with at least minimum levels of protection through the implementation of social protection floors as a matter of priority; and to progressively ensure higher levels of protection.

National social protection floors should comprise basic social security guarantees that ensure, as a minimum, effective access to essential health care and basic income security at a level that allows people to live in dignity throughout the life cycle.

These should include at least:

- access to essential health care, including maternity care;
- basic income security for children;
- basic income security for persons of working age who are unable to earn sufficient income, in particular in cases of sickness, unemployment, maternity and disability; and
- basic income security for older persons.

Complementing existing standards, Recommendation N° 202 sets forth an integrated and coherent approach to social protection across the life cycle, underscores the principle of universality of protection through nationally-defined social protection floors, and embodies a commitment to their progressive realization in terms of benefits and people covered. It thereby aims at ensuring that all members of society enjoy at least a basic level of social security throughout their lives, ensuring their health and dignity.

The Recommendation calls for systems that are country-led, are aligned to national circumstances, are reviewed in the light of population needs, and include the participation of all stakeholders. In an innovative way, it contains guidance on monitoring to help countries assess their progress in moving towards enhanced protection and improving the performance of national social security systems.

“At a time of global economic turmoil and uncertainty, investment in social protection is necessary, feasible and effective. The recommendations of the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group point the way towards a fairer world of decent jobs and opportunities for all.



Ban Ki-moon
United Nations Secretary-General
11 October 2011



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

2015

Sustainable Development Goals

1 PAS DE PAUVRETÉ



SDG 1.3:

Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

3 BONNE SANTÉ ET BIEN-ÊTRE



SDG 3.8:

Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

8 TRAVAIL DÉCENT ET CROISSANCE ÉCONOMIQUE



SDG 8.5:

By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

5 ÉGALITÉ ENTRE LES SEXES



SDG 5.4:

Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

10 INÉGALITÉS RÉDUITES



SDG 10.4:

Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

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SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS

A STORY OF SUCCESS OVER 100 YEARS

2019

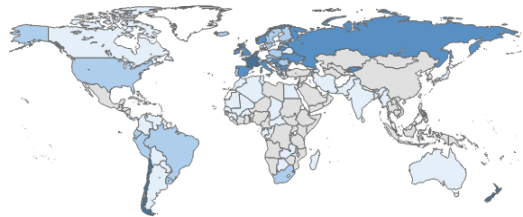
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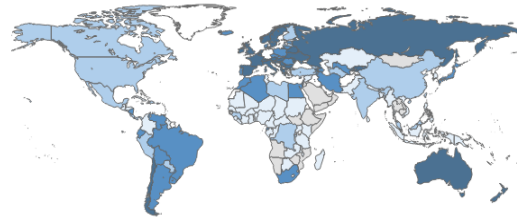
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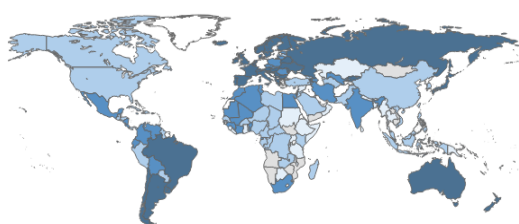
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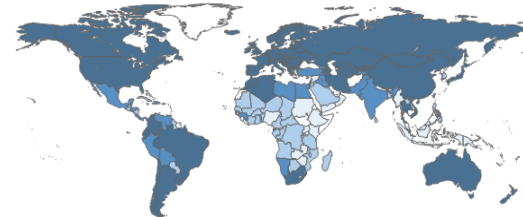
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

Year: 1980



Year: 2015



Scope of legal coverage

-  Comprehensive scope (all 8 policy areas)
-  Nearly comprehensive scope (7 policy areas)
-  Intermediate scope (5-6 policy areas)
-  Limited scope (1-4 policy areas)
-  No data