

International Labour Conference



Conv. 29 - Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (Entry into force: 01 May 1932)
Adoption: Geneva, 14th ILC session (28 Jun 1930) - Status: Up-to-date instrument
(Fundamental Convention).

Article 1

1. Each Member of the International Labour Organisation which ratifies this Convention ***undertakes to suppress the use of forced or compulsory labour in all its forms*** within the shortest possible period.

Article 2

1. For the purposes of this Convention the term ***forced or compulsory labour*** shall mean ***all work or service*** which is exacted from any person ***under the menace of any penalty*** and for which the said person has ***not offered himself voluntarily***.

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Ratifications

- ▶ *1930: adopted by **51 members** states attended ILC (55 member states)*
- ▶ *1935: ratified by **16 countries***
- ▶ *2013: ratified by **177 countries** (185 member states)*

Elimination of Forced Labour – Freedom of association – democracy

Birmanie – Myanmar case

► **June 2000** - 88th Session ILC – **Commission of Inquiry** established to examine the observance by Myanmar of its obligation in respect of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

► **June 2012** - 101st Session ILC – visit de **Aung San Suu Khy**



► **June 2013** – 102nd Session ILC – “Encouraged with the progress made by Myanmar in compliance with the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), while noting that more remains to be done ... decides that the **measure enunciated in paragraph of the 2000 resolution is discontinued**”

Addressing the significant implementation gaps remaining in order to effectively eradicate forced labour

- ▶ **1930:** M Vermont (Britain Empire government) – committee reporter on Convention 29 – plenary speech
« ***The convention plans complete elimination of forced labour for the benefit of private individuals or private enterprises*** »

- ▶ **2012 :** The ILO estimates that there are at least 20.9 million victims of forced labour.
Of this total, **18.7 million (90 per cent) are exploited by private individuals or Enterprises ...**

Actions to :

Identify,

Prevent,

Protect,

Compensate victims of Forced Labour

Prosecute perpetrators of Forced Labour

Victims:

- ▶ ***Labour inspection capacity***
- ▶ ***Public information and education***
- ▶ ***Medical , financial and accommodation assistance***
- ▶ ***Labour Rights recovery***
- ▶ ***Access to justice (Visas and labour authorization)***
- ▶ ***Compensation***
- ▶ ***...***

Perpetrators:

- ▶ ***Dissuasive Penal and Economic sanctions***
- ▶ ***...***

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for a **Protocol** to Conv.29

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) asks for adoption of a **Protocol** to complement C29 during ILC in June 2014

This would be a **strong political signal** at the beginning of this 21st century **towards the victims** of forced labour and **towards the international community**

