



EUROPEAN
FEDERATION
FOR FAMILY
EMPLOYMENT
& HOME CARE



International
Labour
Organization

PICUM
PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON
UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS



May 2021

ILO C189 10th Anniversary - European event

Agenda

Online event on 28-29 June 2021

In order to foster exchanges among participants, a gathering space will be available on Wonder for a **virtual come together** at the end of panels. Participants will have the opportunity to have informal chats with the various panelists as well as with the other conference participants.

Monday 28th June 2021

Introductory session (10:30 – 12:00)

This session will introduce the event, recall the significance of the adoption of ILO C189 and outline the current challenges of the domestic work sector and the C189 ratification process in the European Union.

- Testimony video on the adoption of the Convention by the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)
- Presentation of the C189 Alliance and the event by **Aurélie Decker**, Director of EFSI
- EU Political introduction by European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, **Nicolas Schmit**
- International perspectives by ILO's Deputy Director General for Policy, **Martha Newton**
- **Miguel Filipe Pardal Cabrita**, Secretary of State for Labour, Vocational Training of Portugal, representing the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- Presentation of ILO 2021 Flagship report on domestic work by **Claire Hobden**, ILO Technical Officer, Vulnerable workers
- Guaranteeing gender equality in domestic work sector by, **Carlien Scheele**, Director at EIGE

Interpretation will be available in English, French, Italian, German, Polish, Romanian and Spanish

Panel 1 - Labour law and social protection frameworks: from regulatory gaps to full recognition of domestic workers' rights (14:00 – 15:15)

Objective of the panel : despite the adoption of ILO Convention 189, many domestic workers still suffer from poor labour law and social protection. So far, only seven EU Member States have ratified the Convention. Amongst the 6.3 million formal domestic workers working in the EU, nearly 2 million of them do not enjoy standard labour rights and social protection as they belong to specific derogatory regulations. Therefore, this panel will address the general regulative exemptions and gaps which still apply to domestic workers. It will discuss how decision makers can set up more supportive regulatory frameworks and present initiatives aimed at ratifying ILO Convention 189, improving national regulations and fostering social dialogue in the sector (towards a better representation and structuration of the sector).

Moderator of the session: **Mark Bergfeld**, Director of Property Services & UNICARE at UNI Global Union

Participants:

- The importance of social dialogue, video by **ACV/CSC** – Belgium
- A New Work-Life balance policy: the opportunity to formalize care (the crossroads of policies against job insecurity in the domestic work sector) by **Carmen Grau Pineda** Professor de la University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and **Gema Quintero Lima** Professor de la University of Carlos III Madrid – Spain
- Social dialogue as an effective tool towards the domestic workers' rights improvement by **Wendy Galarza** from Filcams – Italy
- **Mehdi Louali** from Helpling – France - tbc
- Advocating for domestic workers rights under the pandemic at the intersection of immigrants and workers' rights in the United States of America – lessons and inspirations, by **Anna Rosińska**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and **Elizabeth Pellerito**, Labor Education Program, University of Massachusetts Lowell – United-States
- Concluding video from the **DomeQUAL project** - tbc

Q&A session with the audience.

Panel 2 - Tackling undeclared work in domestic work: challenges and successful practices (15:45 – 17:00)

Objective of the panel: An appropriate labour law and social protection framework does not necessarily prevent undeclared work in the domestic sector. Thus, at least 3,1 million domestic workers are undeclared in the EU. The decision to hire a domestic worker formally or on the undeclared market is driven by many factors such as the relative cost and the administrative complexity, as well as the affordability of doing so in relation to a user's income and need. Therefore, while there are various instruments that contribute to reducing undeclared work in the domestic work sector, this panel will focus on measures aimed at reducing the cost of formally hiring a domestic worker (e.g. social-fiscal incentives), at improving detection and at reducing the administrative complexity.

Moderator: **Kerstin Howald**, Political Secretary for Tourism and Domestic Work sectors, EFFAT

Participants:

- Domestic care workers in the EU: working condition challenges, undeclared work & policy options, by **Hans Dubois**, research manager in the Social Policies unit - Eurofound
- Italian domestic work and immigration, video presented by **Andrea Zini**, President of Assindatcolf – Italy
- The cost of PHS support policies **Jean-François Lebrun** – EU expert on PHS policies – France & Belgium
- Tackling undeclared work in the German domestic sector: the way forward, by **Renate Kuhn** from DGB – Germany - tbc
- European Commission inputs on undeclared work, by **Elodie Fazi**, policy officer on undeclared work in DG EMPL's unit D.1 "Free movement of workers, EURES" and by the European Labour Authority

Q&A session with the audience.

Tuesday 29th June 2021

Panel 3 - Guaranteeing the effective enforcement of domestic workers' rights (9:00 – 10:15)

Objective of the panel: Even in countries where the labour and social protection regulatory frameworks could be considered “satisfactory”, we witness a weak enforcement of these rights. Therefore, this panel will present various national and local initiatives aimed at improving the enforcement of labour and social protection standards for domestic workers. It will notably address the issues of access to social protection, domestic workers’ professionalisation and health & safety prevention measures.

Moderator: **Karin Pape**, Regional coordinator for Europe, IDWF

Participants:

- How specific EU labour law sources can be used to challenge national provisions and practices that make domestic work vulnerable to exploitation by **Vera Pavlou** from the University of Glasgow
- Promoting Better Working Conditions on the Domestic Sector by **Teresa Pargana**, Head of Division for Studies Conception and Technical Support to Inspection Activity, Working condition authority (ACT) – Portugal
- Training and certification, a key for domestic housekeepers’ professionalisation, by **Baptiste Lenfant**, CEO at Iperia – France
- Ensuring domestic workers’ well-being and safety at work by **Peter Van de Veire**, Director of the Service Voucher Sectoral Training Fund - Belgium
- The role of bilateral bodies in the domestic work sector as a key factor in training and prevention by **Massimo De Luca**, Director of DOMINA National Observatory on Domestic Work - Italy
- **Raluca Painter**, Head of unit “Labour Market, Health and Social Services” at DG REFORM

Q&A session with the audience.

Panel 4 - Digital platforms and domestic workers' rights (10:45 – 12:00)

Objective of the panel: Digital platforms offer opportunities for opening up employment to greater participation while at the same time having the potential to expand on precariousness in the labour market. Therefore, this panel will explore how online platforms and more globally the “gig economy”, could act as a virtuous model to strengthen domestic workers’ status. It is anticipated that both the advantages and risks of digital solutions for domestic workers, including the latest regulatory developments both at European and national levels will also be discussed.

Moderator: **Thomas Bignal**, Policy Manager, EASPD

Participants:

- **Adrien Gauthier**, ACCOSS – France - tbc
- Representative from YouGenio – Italy - tbc
- Pursuit of decent work, equality and human rights: A lifetime journey for domestic workers by **Mariaam Bhatti**, Co-founder at the Great Care Co-op – Ireland
- Representative from the National Domestic Workers Alliance – United-States
- **Dennis True**, CEO at Hilfr – Denmark – tbc
- EC remarks on the on-going initiative on platform work by **Nikolay Stoyanov**, Policy Officer - Future of Work European Commission, Unit Employment Strategy (EMPL.B.1)

Q&A session with the audience.

Panel 5 - Domestic workers & migration (13:30 – 14:45)

Objective of the panel: This session will discuss how decision makers can improve the situation of migrant domestic workers (MDW) in Europe by improving regular pathways for migration, implementing regularisation schemes, and addressing particular challenges for migrant domestic workers’ labour rights.

Moderator: **Aude Boisseuil**, General Delegate, EFFE

Participants:

- Presentation of the issues at stake and concrete proposal by **Lilana Keith**, Senior Advocacy Officer, PICUM
- Migrant Domestic workers’ health: an Italian case study, by **Francesca Alice Vianello**, Assistant professor in Sociology of economics and work at University of Padua – Italy
- Hidden at Work: how domestic workers lack protection from exploitation, by **Anna Ensing**, Project leader at FairWork –Netherlands
- Improving and ensuring domestic worker rights, addressing the gaps in protection, by **Avril Sharp**, Policy and Casework officer at Kalayaan – United Kingdom
- Regularisation pathways for migrants domestic workers by **Marianne Halle**, Centre de contact Suisses-immigrés Genève (CCSI) – Canton of Geneva -Switzerland

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- “East-West Care Bonds?”: Care Migration from Central and Eastern Europe by **Dr Petra Ezzedine**, researcher at Charles University, Prague

Q&A session with the audience.

Closing session: Improving domestic workers’ rights at European level (15:15 – 17:00)

Moderator: Lieve Verboven, Director of the ILO Office for the European Union and the Benelux countries

Key political recommendations by C189 Alliance partners:

- **Philippe Symons**, President of EFSI
- **Olivier Roethig**, Uni Europa Regional Secretary
- **Luk Zelderloo** EASPD Secretary General
- **Marie Béatrice Levoux**, EFFE President
- **Kristjan Bragason**, EFFAT General Secretary
- **Myrtle Witbooi**, IDWF President
- **Michele Levoy**, PICUM Director

Responses and comments by European stakeholders and decision makers:

- **Mateja Ribič**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the Republic of Slovenia
- **Lucia Ďuriš Nicholsonová**, Chair of the European Parliament Employment and Social Affairs Committee - tbc
- **Evelyn Regner**, Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality
- **Jan Willem Goudriaan**, EPSU General Secretary
- **Jordi Curell Gotor**, Director Labour Mobility (EMPL.D) at the European Commission