

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

www.ituc-csi.org

The primary mission of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) is to promote and defend the rights and interests of workers through international cooperation between trade unions, global campaigns, and advocacy within major international institutions.

Its core areas of activity include:

- Trade union rights and human rights;
- Economy, society, and the world of work;
- Equality and non-discrimination;
- International solidarity.

The ITUC strictly adheres to the principles of trade union democracy and independence. The organization is governed by the World Congress, held every four years, as well as the General Council and the Executive Bureau.

Regional Organizations and Partnerships

The ITUC coordinates its work through its regional structures: the ITUC Asia-Pacific Regional Organization (ITUC-AP), the ITUC African Regional Organization (ITUC-AF), and the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA). It cooperates closely with the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), including through the Pan-European Regional Council (PERC).

Furthermore, the ITUC maintains close ties with Global Union Federations and the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC). It actively collaborates with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and several other specialized UN agencies.

ITUC Leadership

Luc Triangle — General Secretary

Luc Triangle was elected General Secretary of the ITUC in October 2023 at the 6th Extraordinary ITUC World Congress, after serving as Acting General Secretary since April 2023. The ITUC represents around 200 million workers across 169 countries and territories, bringing together 340 national organizations.

Representing the global trade union movement, Luc also holds several significant international positions:

- Member of the UN Global Compact Board;
- Co-chair of the International Energy Agency (IEA) Employment Advisory Committee;
- Vice-Chair of the Coordinating Committee of the ILO Global Coalition for Social Justice;
- Member of the Civil Society Advisory Group to the WTO Director-General;
- Member of the Steering Group of the Committee on Workers' Capital.

Professional Background: Luc's trade union career began in 1982 within the youth wing of the ACV-CSC union in Belgium. From 1984 to 2011, he managed various European and international projects at ACV-CSC, including youth support initiatives and directing the union's training center.

In 2011, he was elected General Secretary of the European Trade Union Federation for Textiles, Clothing and Leather (ETUF-TCL). In 2012, he became Deputy General Secretary of the European trade union IndustriAll Europe, and was elected General Secretary in 2016 (re-elected in 2021). IndustriAll Europe represents 7 million workers in manufacturing, mining, and energy supply chains across Europe.

Akiko Gono — President

Akiko Gono was elected President of the ITUC at its Fifth World Congress held in Melbourne, Australia, in November 2022.

Akiko joined the trade union movement in 1981 as a member of Zensen Domei (the Japanese federation of textile, chemical, commercial, and allied workers' unions). She focused heavily on international solidarity, holding elected offices at both regional and national levels. Notably, she served as Secretary of TWARO (Asian Regional Organization of Textile Workers) from 1998 to 2012 and directed Zensen Domei's International Affairs Bureau.

In 2016, Akiko was elected Vice-President of UA Zensen, created through a series of union mergers to become Japan's largest industrial union. She also served as General Secretary of the Liaison Council with IndustriAll Japan.

Her extensive work, particularly with TWARO, provided her with deep insight into the challenges faced by textile workers and unions in developing nations. Throughout her international career, Akiko has been instrumental in drafting Global Framework Agreements between Japanese corporations and Global Union Federations, as well as settling disputes with multinational enterprises. Since 2022, she has served as the International Representative of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO). In June 2017, she was elected as a worker member of the ILO Governing Body and was re-elected in 2021.

Cathy Feingold — Deputy President

Cathy Feingold was first elected Deputy President of the ITUC in December 2018 and re-elected at the Fifth ITUC World Congress in Melbourne, Australia, in November 2022. As the Director of the International Department of the AFL-CIO, Cathy is a leading global advocate for workers' rights.

For more than 20 years, Cathy has championed trade union rights, women's empowerment, and economic justice globally and locally. Previously, she directed the AFL-CIO Solidarity Center's work in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. There, she collaborated with local unions to design innovative campaigns improving conditions for domestic workers, migrants, and informal sector workers, fostering a movement that integrated domestic workers into the mainstream Dominican labor structures.

In Haiti, Cathy established labor law training programs and facilitated the publication of the first version of the Haitian labor code in Creole, significantly enhancing workers' access to justice. She

also spearheaded the organization's humanitarian response following the devastating January 2010 earthquake.

Beyond her union leadership, Cathy has worked with major international organizations and grassroots NGOs. She published studies on the economic impact of policy on market women in Nigeria and researched the effects of economic structural adjustment on women workers in Nicaragua as a Fulbright Scholar.

Antônio Lisboa — Deputy President

Antônio de Lisboa Amâncio Vale was elected Deputy President of the ITUC at the Fifth ITUC World Congress in Melbourne, Australia, in November 2022. In his home country, he serves as the Secretary for International Relations of the Central Única dos Trabalhadores (CUT-Brazil).

A geography and history teacher by profession, Antônio has held leadership roles in the National Confederation of Education Workers (CNTE). Born to a farming family, he is the son of Agostinho, the founder of the rural workers' union in the municipality of Tauá.

At age 12, he moved to Brasília, balancing daytime employment to support his family with night school. During the final years of the military dictatorship, he participated actively in rebuilding the student movement. From 2001 to 2009, he led the Federal District Teachers' Union through the largest strikes in its history. Since 2014, he has officially represented workers on the ILO Governing Body.

Jordania Ureña Lora — Deputy General Secretary

Jordania Ureña Lora was elected Deputy General Secretary of the ITUC at the Fifth World Congress in Melbourne, Australia, in November 2022.

Originally from the Dominican Republic, Jordania served as the Chair of the Committee of Youth Workers of the Americas (CJTA-CSA) and later as Secretary for Social Affairs at the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA). Her core areas of expertise include gender equality, youth labor rights, racial equality, social protection, eliminating child labor, and indigenous rights.

In the Dominican Republic, she was a prominent national spokesperson for public anti-corruption movements, an active advocate for the Climate Justice alliance, Youth Secretary for the Confederación Nacional de Trabajadores Dominicanos (CNTD), Chair of the Dominican Council of Young Workers, coordinator of the Inter-Union Committee of Working Women, and a member of the National Federation of Working Women.

Jordania holds degrees in labor law, social security, cooperative management, and occupational risk assessment.

Eric Mwezi Manzi — Deputy General Secretary

Eric Mwezi Manzi was elected Deputy General Secretary of the ITUC at the Fifth ITUC World Congress in November 2022. Prior to this role, he served as the Deputy General Secretary of ITUC-Africa starting in 2020.

Born in the DR Congo with Rwandan roots, Eric began his career in 1992 as a maintenance engineer, which marked his initial involvement in labor activism. In 2001, he was elected General

Secretary of the Centrale des Syndicats des Travailleurs du Rwanda (CESTRAR), a post he held until 2019 after being re-elected three consecutive times.

Eric's trade union journey was profoundly shaped by the aftermath of the 1994 Tutsi genocide in Rwanda and the subsequent regional conflicts. Peace, civil reconciliation, and building a resilient labor movement under restrictive political conditions became his core priorities. Under his stewardship, CESTRAR navigated four major labor law overhauls within 12 years and successfully defended critical public services from aggressive privatization.

Key Achievements Under Eric's Leadership:

- Organizing transparent workplace elections with mandatory worker representation;
- Establishing specialized judicial chambers to handle labor disputes;
- Gaining legal recognition and protections for informal economy workers;
- Launching a worker healthcare scheme that served as the blueprint for Rwanda's universal health insurance system.

During his tenure, Eric represented workers on the Board of the National Social Security Fund and served as Vice-President of the National Labor Council. In 2016, he co-chaired the 105th session of the International Labour Conference as the Worker Vice-President, and served as President of the East African Trade Union Confederation (EATUC) from 2017 to 2019.