

CALL

*Church Action on
Labour and Life*

Questionnaire to compare the situation of precarious work in different European countries

Name
Country
Church / Institution
Address
Contact data (email)
Phone/Mobile

Dear colleagues,

This questionnaire includes a lot of questions concerning precarious work which aren't easy to answer. We know that for some of you, it could be hard work to get the information. Don't worry if you cannot give a correct answer to every question! Our goal is that by looking at the situation in your own country you will become more sensitive and conscious about precarious work. And this step will make it easier to share our information, to understand each other and to come to a common understanding. If you have any questions or comments please contact me!

Klaus-Peter Spohn-Logé
Moderator of the Call Working Group on Precarious Work

Definition: Precarious work means

- low and usually irregular income
- inadequate or even lack of any social protection, health care, pension and unemployment insurance
- lack of opportunities for participation
- lack of control over working hours
- low chances of promotion and a lack of further education prospects

Precarious Work

1. Are you aware of precarious work conditions in your country and what form do they mainly take?
2. What are the biggest problems concerning precarious work from your point of view?
3. Do you have any statistical figures about the extent of precarious work (exact or estimated)? Who is mainly affected by precarious work conditions?
4. Informal Sector: Do you have any information about the so called informal sector (so-called black market economy) and the working conditions and rules in this area?
5. Labour Law: Are there specific rules in your country about
 - temporary agency work
 - fixed term contracts
 - part time work
 - unfair dismissal

Wages and living costs

6. How high is the average wage in different sectors, especially in those which are affected by precarious work and have migrant workers? (In local currency and Euros)
7. In your country, is there an (official) minimum wage? How high? (local currency and Euro)
8. What should be the minimum income in your country to provide a basic standard of living?
 - For somebody living alone?
 - Single parent with one child
 - Family with two children
9. Living costs: What is the average price for
 - Bread (1 kg)?
 - Milk (1 l)

- Rent for an average flat (three rooms, 60 m2, including water, heating and electricity)
10. How long does somebody with an average income need to work for these products?

Unemployment

11. What are the official figures (real figures) of unemployment in your country? (men / women / young people)
12. Is there an unemployment benefit system in your country?
What kind of benefits do unemployed people receive?
- How much per week or month
 - How long
 - Who is entitled to get it?
 - What support is offered to help unemployed people to get a job?
13. When unemployment benefits ends (or does not exist): Is there a social benefit system for people without income?
- Who is entitled to get the payment?
 - How much does a person receive and what is included in the payment?
 - Is it enough to live on (living minimum)?

General economic and political situation

14. Can you give us some general information about the political and economic situation of your country?
- Government (which party is in power? / opposition)
 - Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
 - National Debt
 - Poverty and wealth (inequality)

Migration

15. Is there a significant migration of workforce from other European countries into your country?
If yes: Can you say anything about the level, from which countries or regions?
Can you say anything how the migrants are seen by the locals?
16. Is there a significant migration of workforce from your country into other European countries?
If yes: Can you say anything about the level, to which countries or regions?
What are the effects of migration? (for example on family life or local community and economy?)
17. Who migrates?
- Gender

- Age
- qualification
- In which kind of jobs?

Personal perspective (interest and goals)

18. What do you want to learn in the exchange of information with the colleagues from other European countries?
19. What is your background (experience) with the target group?
20. What kind of political demands and measures are necessary to improve the situation of precarious workers in the European Union from your point of view?
21. Are there existing projects for precarious workers in your country?
22. Do you have any proposals or ideas for practical projects?
23. Why and how could churches act to improve the situation of precarious workers? If your church is employing people: What does your church do to avoid precarious work conditions?
24. In which way can you participate in the Call project "Precarious Work" and what are your resources?
25. Do you want to cooperate in the project with other national organisations (for example trade unions, NGO's, employers, other churches or church based organisation)
26. Do you want to give any further feedback or comment on anything, which is not included in the questionnaire? Do you have any additional question for the other partners?

The answers to the questionnaire should be send before the end of January 2011 to

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