



ONLINE

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION ON INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

2026 EDITION

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization

ITC 
International Training Centre

Continuing Legal Education on International Labour Standards (CLE on ILS) is a series of complementary courses offered in self-guided modality. It aims at strengthening the knowledge and developing the skills of legal practitioners working in the field of labour law so that they are better equipped to exercise their profession at the service of social justice.

BACKGROUND

International labour standards (ILS) adopted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) are the main sources of international labour law. They are not only tools for the development of national legislation, but can also contribute to strengthening domestic case law on labour matters.

Together with the comments and analysis of the relevant supervisory bodies, ILS offer a matchless source of interpretation and inspiration for judges and lawyers in ILO member States. Several examples show that domestic courts are increasingly more willing to draw not only on international labour Conventions and Recommendations but also on the work of the ILO supervisory bodies to interpret and complement their domestic law.

Judges, lawyers, law professors and tutors are crucial to the full application of all instruments promoting and protecting human rights at work.

WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE?

- Magistrates.
- Lawyers.
- Legal experts from employers' and workers' organizations.
- University law teachers and students.
- Legal educators responsible for training judges and lawyers.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

To gain advanced critical thinking, professional knowledge, and skills to use international labour law sources at the national level.

WHAT WILL I GAIN FROM THE COURSES?

- Understanding of the legal doctrine and methods used to bring international law into play in legal proceedings at the national level.
- Ability to use appropriately in a domestic legal context the substance of international labour law and the work of the ILO supervisory bodies.

- Capacity to compare and situate your national legal system with those of other countries.
- Knowledge of points of access – resources and databases – to the documented results of the work of the international supervisory bodies that can be drawn upon accurately for use nationally.

HOW ARE THE COURSES ORGANIZED AND WHAT TOPICS DO THEY COVER?

CLE on ILS consists of three courses running at a distance, via Internet, and hosted on the ITCILO eCampus. Their content is based on the premise that participants are already versed in legal concepts and thinking.

WEB 1: INTRODUCTION TO ILS

120 MINUTES

- Optional self-guided course embedded into the package.
- This introductory course provides a basic understanding of ILS:
 - what they are, the reasons for their development, their characteristics and relevance, and how they are used;
 - how they are adopted, promoted and supervised; and
 - what subjects they cover and their contents.
- The course is divided into three sections:
 - ILS in a nutshell;
 - ILS in action; and
 - content of ILS.

WEB 2: FOUNDATIONS FOR THE JUDICIAL USE OF ILS NATIONALLY

6 HOURS

- Self-guided course specifically designed for legal practitioners.
- It examines and compares national dualist, monist and “mixed” approaches to incorporating international law into domestic legal systems through readings, videos and cases for consideration. Content departs from a general perspective on international law and concludes by exploring how to apply these approaches when using ILS.
- The course is divided into two sections:
 - the foundations for the judicial use of ILS nationally; and
 - the typology of uses.

WEB 3: USING THE WORK OF THE ILO SUPERVISORY BODIES

6 HOURS

- Self-guided course tailored to legal practitioners.
- It recalls the sources of international labour law and presents the “outputs” of the international supervisory bodies in order to potentially bringing them to bear in the context of national labour disputes. It briefly explains the functioning of regular and special supervision on ILS and the methods for finding the work of the supervisory bodies. It includes readings, videos, interactive presentations,

demonstrations and cases showing the rationales applied and the mechanisms used by domestic courts desiring to draw on relevant international supervision to help resolve national labour disputes.

- The course is divided into three sections:
 - the sources of international labour law;
 - the supervisory procedures and bodies; and
 - resources and databases.

Each course includes a knowledge assessment at the start and at the end, to test individually the initial and final knowledge of the content.

WHAT IS THE LANGUAGE OF THE COURSES?

The courses are offered in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. A good command of one of the working languages is required.

WHO ARE THE LECTURERS?

- Members and former members of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), one of the main ILO bodies supervising the application of ILS by member States, and of other supervisory bodies.
- Experts from the Judiciary and Academia.
- Specialists from the International Labour Office and the ITCILO.

WILL I GET A CERTIFICATE?

On completing each course, you can earn your digital participation certificate, which can be presented to the relevant national authorities for accreditation meeting national continuing legal education or continuing professional development requirements, if agreements are in force to this end.

WHAT FOLLOW-UP TO THESE COURSES?

All participants will be invited to join the on-line **Community of Practice on “International labour standards for judges, lawyers and legal educators”**, a network of law professionals who have attended this type of ITCILO courses and where legal practitioners from all over the world can connect, stay abreast, share and learn.

HOW MUCH DO THESE COURSES COST?

Web 1: Introduction to ILS

Free

Apply: <https://ecampus.itcilo.org/enrol/index.php?id=947>

Web 2: Foundations for the judicial use of ILS nationally

180 Euros

Course code: A9719194

Apply: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/CST/A9719194/en>

Web 3: Using the work of the ILO supervisory bodies

180 Euros

Course code: A9719195

Apply: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/CST/A9719195/en>

HOW TO PAY FOR THESE COURSES?

Tuition costs must be paid in advance before the beginning of the courses by the participant or the sponsor through bank transfer or credit card.

For payments by credit card, please follow the instructions on our website. For those by bank transfer, please e-mail to jurist@itcilo.org.

For detailed information regarding payments, cancellations and refunds, please consult:
<https://www.itcilo.org/applications-payments-cancellation>.

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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