



SOCIAL DIALOGUE

# SUMMER SCHOOL ON SOCIAL DIALOGUE

SOCIAL DIALOGUE AND LIVING WAGES

7–9 JULY 2026

TURIN, ITALY

## Information note



With financial support



## CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

More than half of the global workforce is employed, but millions of workers earn incomes that are insufficient for a decent standard of living. In low-income countries, half of employees earn less than approximately 201 dollars per month, according to the ILO's Global Wage Report 2024-25. In response to persistently low wages, initiatives to promote a living wage are multiplying, particularly within multinational companies. In February 2024, the ILO adopted conclusions establishing a common definition of a living wage, principles for its estimation, and guidelines for its implementation, in line with its fundamental principles of wage setting. The ILO is now mandated to support its constituents in estimating and applying living wages and to promote their alignment with these principles.

In this context, social dialogue is an essential lever for integrating living wages into national wage-setting systems. According to the ILO's principles on wage-setting, wages should ideally be determined either through collective bargaining between social partners or by establishing a legal minimum wage within the framework of a tripartite social dialogue involving governments, employers' organisations and workers' organisations. Tripartite social dialogue plays a central role in the development and adjustment of institutional wage-setting frameworks, while collective bargaining, based on freedom of association and respect for the autonomy of the social partners, is an important mechanism for determining wages and contributing to a more equitable distribution of economic growth. A strong social dialogue, based on shared access to information, thus makes it possible to reflect both the needs of workers and economic realities, strengthening the legitimacy, effectiveness and consistency of wage policies, including those relating to living wages.

## THE CONTRIBUTION OF RESEARCH AND NEW PRACTICES

Research plays a fundamental role in analysing the relationship between **social dialogue and living wages**. Understanding how collective bargaining mechanisms, tripartite wage-setting frameworks and labour market institutions influence the estimation and implementation of living wages is essential for informing public policy and social partner strategies.

Exploring new practices offers opportunities for innovation in integrating living wages into national wage-setting systems. However, these initiatives require rigorous analysis to maximise their impact, ensure consistency with ILO wage-setting principles, and guarantee their economic and social sustainability.

The academic contributions and case studies presented at the Summer School will enrich this reflection and support stakeholders in improving their approaches to social dialogue and fair wage policies.

## OBJECTIVES

- Understand the role of tripartite social dialogue and collective bargaining in integrating living wages into national wage-setting systems.
- Analyse the challenges and opportunities involved in estimating and implementing living wages.
- Promote dialogue among governments, employers' organisations, and workers' organisations on wage policies.
- Encourage research and the presentation of academic work on social dialogue and living wages.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Representatives of employers' and workers' organisations.
- Civil servants responsible for labour issues.
- Practitioners of national and international social dialogue, including human resources managers.
- Lawyers, economists, and sociologists specialising in labour issues.
- Officials from the ILO and other international organisations.
- Researchers and academics specialising in corporate governance, industrial relations, and human rights.

## FORMAT AND METHODOLOGY

The Summer School will be structured around several modules combining theoretical courses, comparative studies, participatory workshops, and expert testimonials.

A dedicated section will be dedicated to academic research, where contributors will be invited to present their work on social dialogue, wage setting and living wages. These presentations, drawing on national and international experiences, will stimulate debate and deepen knowledge on the institutional conditions conducive to more equitable wage policies.

The call for contributions will be a key tool for identifying and sharing innovative approaches and strengthening the links between theory and practice.

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

A call for contributions will be launched as part of this Summer School to:

- Encourage research on social dialogue and living wages.
- Collect the best or most innovative practices in the field.
- Foster debate during the Summer School through presentations and discussions on the selected contributions.
- Enhance understanding of the dynamics affecting labour relations and their impact on the duty of care.
- Selected contributors will receive a grant to finalise their work and will be invited to share their findings at the Summer School.

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

A scientific committee will be established to ensure the academic excellence of the Summer School and guarantee the selection of the most relevant contributions. This committee will be composed of representatives from the following institutions:

- ILO Paris
- French Ministry of Labour
- ILO Geneva
- ITCILO
- National Institute for Labour, Employment and Vocational Training (INTEFP)
- A recognised French-speaking academic figure expert in labour law

The committee will be responsible for validating the academic programme, evaluating the contributions received and guiding strategic discussions during the Summer School.

## SPEAKERS

- Academics and researchers specialising in business law, labour relations and CSR
- Representatives of employer and employee organisations
- Representatives of companies engaged in due diligence processes
- Legal experts and consultants in corporate social responsibility.

## DATES AND LOCATION

Turin, 7-9 July 2026

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Creation of a network for exchange and best practices between professionals and researchers.
- Development of recommendations and concrete tools to strengthen the integration of living wages into wage-setting systems.
- Promotion and dissemination of research contributing to a better understanding of the institutional mechanisms that promote wages that enable a decent standard of living.

## PRICE

Tuition fees: €1,585 Subsistence fees: €515 Total price: €2,100

# STUDENT LIFE

## A THRIVING UNITED NATIONS CAMPUS AND A COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

- **Three** United Nations **agencies** on campus
- **Over 300 courses and training activities** in a stimulating international environment
- **Thousands of participants** from around the world

### ENVIRONMENT AND SURROUNDINGS

**Grab a bike and explore the campus.** Located in a wooded park on the banks of the River Po, it is an ideal place for study and collaboration. Discover innovative learning and training methods in modern classrooms equipped for simultaneous interpreting.

## SLEEP, EAT AND MUCH MORE

In addition to more than 280 private rooms, **the Turin Campus offers course participants and partners a wide range of services**, including a self-service restaurant, a travel agency, a laundry, a post office, a gym, an infirmary and a 24-hour reception.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**Participants enjoy social activities organised by the Turin Centre** and by their training activity leaders. Whether on or off campus, men and women from different cultural backgrounds come together to listen to live music, cook and share traditional meals, or simply play games and chat.

## WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS (REGULAR COURSES)

If an accepted participant no longer wishes to or is unable to participate in the activity, they may enrol directly in another course or be replaced by another participant. However, they must notify the Centre in writing at least 14 days before the start date of the activity. Cancellation of participation in a regular course will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more before the start date of the course: no penalty, 100% refund of the amount paid minus applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days before the course start date: 50% penalty, 50% refund of the amount paid minus applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less before the course start date: 100% penalty of the amount paid.

# INFO

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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