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FAMUN 2023 | 10 YEARS



# NEWSLETTER 2

8 SEPTEMBER 2023

# Building sustainable futures

## Paving the way beyond Youth employment challenges

By Bruno Vizzotto and Gabriel Vieira



Rafael Sola

The Brazilian and Indian representatives from ILO University

Since middle school, we have been taught to prepare for job interviews and corporate life. We learn that there is an appropriate dress code and a respectful way to act towards your superiors and colleagues. After all, having a job is not only a necessity but also a right. Then, what can we, the youth, do when high unemployment rates hit us the most? This is one of the issues that the International Labour Organization (ILO) has been tackling: Its first resolution on Youth Employment was adopted in 2005. Since then, competitive markets, discrimination against minorities, and the digital era challenges are some of the issues affecting youth employment that the ILO tripartite constituents have been debating.

The 2008 financial and economic crisis brought unprecedented difficulties to the employment discussion, as millions of jobs were lost when the global economy suffered heavily from the impact of the real estate bubble burst. In this context, the youth, which is more sensitive to economic instability and perceived as a less competent labor force - being hired less - have been experiencing an increase in informal, insecure, undervalued, and undeclared jobs. The ILO continued to debate these challenges and, in 2012, it approved a new resolution on Youth Employment, calling for action on the theme. In this sense, companies and States have worked on

building new solutions, which lead to a decrease in the youth unemployment rate. However, as an effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and the current economic crisis, the world is now facing a youth employment crisis, as 16% of young people worldwide are jobless - a rate that is almost 3 times higher than the adult unemployment rate, according to the ILO.

Bearing this in mind, Gimena Vint came from Argentina to represent India at ILO University. She believes that managing youth employment levels is crucial and that developing new opportunities through technology is the most important topic of discussion. Camila Bahia, the representative of Brazil, also believes that the discussion should effectively insert young people into the debate. She also added that “youth employability is not merely about creating opportunities, but also ensuring that they are suitable and dignified”.

Therefore, the post-COVID era challenges will blend with the digital and technological ones in the fight against youth unemployment. We invite you, delegate, to engage in the much-needed discussion about the future of youth employment. We must combat discrimination and promote diversity in the labor market, nurture a more sustainable and environmentally friendly economy, and provide decent work opportunities despite the growing use of technology.

# Highlights from Committees and Councils

## High School International Labour Organization 1

By Bruno Vizzotto

The Workers and Employers Vice-Chairs highlighted the importance of creating a dignified, safe, and healthy workspace in their opening statements. Workers also emphasized the matter of ending discrimination against young people. The Governments, meanwhile, presented the challenges that plague their youth populations and vaguely spoke of international cooperation to boost youth employment. As they moved on to the general discussion, there was a clear discrepancy in whose interests were being heard, with the Employers and Governments dominating the debate. In particular, the North's agenda was pushed by the delegation of France,

as countries from the South joined in. On the side of the Employers, the representative of Portugal endorsed the view of continuous development posed by the rich countries. Likewise, the Worker representative of Portugal led the Workers' group ideas, which reinforced the dominance of the Global North in the committee. Education was the main point, being deemed the most important aspect of guaranteeing young people's insertion in the labor market, while climate change and the insertion of minorities were largely dismissed or only briefly discussed. Special attention was given to the needs of developing countries in terms of technology and education.

## High School International Labour Organization 2

By Helena Lona

Workers and Employers seem a little more engaged than the Government's delegates. During sessions 1 and 2, Employers pressured Government delegates more than they were being pressured themselves by Workers. They started discussing the challenges and nexus between climate change, technology, inclusion, and workspaces. The highlights of the sessions were: China's Employer and Portugal's Workers delegates. China argued that new technologies offer chances and challenges to youth. In her vision, challenges should be dealt with by Governments, not by Employers. Meanwhile, Portugal's Workers' delegate contradicted herself. During her speech,

she said that Workers should demand their rights at all costs, but when divided into groups, she affirmed that economic progress should come first. In turn, the US Government thinks they have been doing their part in securing workers' rights and that should continue as so. Groups started coming to conclusions. Workers want Governments to supervise their employers, who should offer transparent work contracts. However, with over 100 amendments, delegates are making an effort to come to a common solution. Are the delegates ready to deal with the differences that come with possibilities they have been proud to notice? In consensus we trust.

Marina Vendramini



ILO HS 1 Employers Vice-Chair negotiating during the second sitting



ILO HS 1 during the Vienna Formula writing process

Marina Vendramini

# Highlights from Committees and Councils

## University International Labour Organization

By Gabriel Vieira

Discussing Youth Employment, the committee started its work by hearing statements from the Workers and Employers' Vice-Chairs, of France and of the US, respectively. Their speeches stressed the importance of providing business and entrepreneurship education, but, initially, they did not express that demands from the LIC's and MIC's youth were being heard. In the general discussion, there were little to no immediate worries about the environmental, climate, and youth issues. What are the members of the ILO going to do in order to fulfill this need straight away? Continuing the discussions, now with both Vice-Chairs from Global South, the

Workers, through Brazil's moderation, demanded that Employers listen actively to their demands, and apply it in companies' policy. We are now seeing what Workers came to do: Fight for their rights to decent work opportunities for youth. Regarding the amendments, the Governments seemed quite shy in the discussion. There was a lot of self-promotion and pretty much no concrete plans. Employers failed to recognize their responsibility in the matter, pushing all the actions to the Governments. On the other hand, Workers seemed to be the only adults in the room as they were trying to achieve consensus despite the other parts inability to cooperate.



Rafael Sola

Delegates from ILO HS 2 negotiating



Rafael Sola

Employers' group in HS ILO 2 discussing during the writing process



Mateus Toledo

ILO UNI Government representative of Gabon making a statement in the second sitting



Mateus Toledo

Employers' group in HS ILO 2 discussing during the writing process

# Making the Most of FAMUN



Mateus Toledo

Splendid guitar and flute duet by the High School delegates



Caio Felipe

HS SC 1 Albania representatives begin the stakeout



## Coming up next...

Saturday, 09 September 2023 (BRT)

- 08:30-09:00 | Head Delegate's Meeting
- 09:00-11:00 | Session 5
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee-break
- 11:30-13:00 | Session 6
- 13:00-15:00 | Lunch
- 15:00-17:00 | Session 7
- 20:30 | Social Event for University:  
Turntables Meetup



## Our Picks

“The Wall” by Pink Floyd

This iconic album and film adaptation touch on themes of youth alienation, unemployment, and societal pressures that many young people face.

“Generation Jobless” (2016)

This documentary focuses on the struggles of young people around the world who are facing unemployment and underemployment in the wake of the global economic crisis.

**FAMUN 2023 DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS**

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