2023 Global Rights Index

Violations of Workers’ Rights

The 2023 ITUC Global Rights Index depicts the world’s worst countries for workers by rating 149 countries on a scale of 1-5+ based on the degree of respect for workers’ rights, with 1 being the best rating and 5+ being the worst.

Violations are recorded each year from April to March. Each country is analysed against a list of 97 indicators derived from ILO conventions and jurisprudence. The index represents violations of workers’ rights in both law and practice.

- **Right to strike**: 87% of countries violated the right to strike.
- **Right to collective bargaining**: 79% of countries violated the right to collective bargaining.
- **Right to establish and join a trade union**: 77% of countries excluded workers from the right to establish or join a trade union.
- **Right to justice**: 65% of countries restricted access to justice for workers.
- **Right to trade union activities**: 73% of countries impeded the registration of unions.
- **Right to civil liberties**: Workers were detained and arrested in 69 countries.
- **Right to free speech and assembly**: 42% of countries restricted free speech and assembly.
- **Murders**: Trade unionists were murdered in 8 countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Peru and Sierra Leone.
- **Violent attacks on workers**: Workers experienced violence in 44 countries.
- **5+ No guarantee of rights due to the breakdown of the rule of law**
- **5 No guarantee of rights**
- **4 Systematic violations of rights**
- **3 Regular violations of rights**
- **2 Repeated violations of rights**
- **1 Sporadic violations of rights**
- **No data**

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