



Labour
Movements

Newsletter

December 2025 – January 2026

Welcome to RC44's first newsletter for 2026! Please note the following:

(1) Items for the newsletter are always encouraged and welcomed, e.g., new or forthcoming publications, upcoming events, calls for papers or abstracts, job posts, links to reports about labour movement activities, or other relevant news/announcements. Send any items to tom.barnes@acu.edu.au. The deadline for the next newsletter is 28 February.

(2) Please invite colleagues and comrades to join our eList, including fellow researchers, academics and students of labour, work, employment and labour movements (and related fields), as well as trade unionists, NGO and movement activists, practitioners, etc. It's easy! If you're already on the list, you can invite them yourself. Alternatively, tell them to sign up directly by signing up to googlegroups and searching for 'rc-44', or just email a request to tom.barnes@acu.edu.au.

Publications

Journal Articles

Global Labour Journal

January 2026 (Vol. 17, No. 1)

This quarter's issue includes articles on the entertainment industry in Italy, labour regimes in Mexican call centres, organizing among ridesharing drivers, repression and the labour movement in Bangladesh, and reviews of three important new books.

Contributors: Hilary Goodfriend, Alana Gross, Thomas Klikauer, Leda M. Perez, Nicholas Pons-Vignon, Al Amin Rabby, Antonio Sanguinetti, Mirco di Sandro

Zhang, Zihao and Jenny Chan. (2026) Gendered Organisation of Platform Food Delivery Work in China. *Made in China Journal*. <https://madeinchinajournal.com/2026/01/12/gendered-organisation-of-platform-food-delivery-work-in-china/>

Mills, S., Foley, W., & Yang, N. (2025). [Between inclusion and disconnection: LGBTQ Workers and the challenge of union renewal](#). *Journal of Industrial Relations*, 68(1), 143-165.

- Eidlin, Barry and Emmanuel Guay (2025) Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: Political Mobilization and Policy Reform in Québec. *Labour Le Travail*, 96:67–92.
<https://www.iltjournal.ca/index.php/ilt/article/view/6407>
- Blanc, E., & Mancilla, B. (2025). [How New York Unions Can Rebuild under Mayor Zohran Mamdani](#). *New Labor Forum*, 35(1), 33-40
- Brooks, C. (2025). [Seizing the Moment: Lessons from the Front Lines of the UAW’s Fight to Scale Up](#). *New Labor Forum*, 35(1), 22-32
- van Zoonen, W., & Sivunen, A. E. (2025). [Autonomy’s Mirage: How Fauxtonomy Fuels Workers’ Frustration in the Gig Economy](#). *Work, Employment and Society*, Online First
- Sarkar, S., & Charlwood, A. (2025). [Glocalising Union Organising: How Access to Power Resources Enables and Constrains Global Union Federation Campaigns in the Global South](#). *Work, Employment and Society*, Online First
- Heiland, H. (2025). [Symbolic surplus: How recruitment strategies form workers’ social composition and protest in food delivery gig work](#). *Platforms & Society*
- Pascu, A. (2025). [The logistical colonisation of life: Gender, exploitation, and resistance in the work of Romanian women truck drivers](#). *Work Organisation, Labour & Globalisation*, 19(3), 315–329.
- Wulansari, A. D. (2025). [Practising being precarious workers: State, policy and the labour regime in Indonesian academic internships](#). *Work Organisation, Labour & Globalisation*, 19(3), 355–378.
- van Doorn, N., Beerepoot, N., Kitamura, M., & Piukovici-Karadag, S. (2025). [Continuity and change: Reflections on over a decade of research on platform-mediated gig work](#). *Work Organisation, Labour & Globalisation*, 19(3), 506–514.
- Khatouki, Christopher (2026) [Political Economic Transformation and Contentious Labour Politics: The Case of South Korea](#). *Sociology Compass*
- Ford, M., & Gillan, M. (2024). [The Global Union Federations and their affiliates: Constrained agency in action](#). *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 47(1), 173-195
- Overgaard, C. H., & Høgedahl, L. (2024). [Employer strategies for undermining migrants’ power resources: Evidence from the Danish construction sector](#). *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 47(1), 78-96
- Churchill, Brendan, Kate Dangar, and Asangi M. Gunawansa. (2026) [Gender and Anticipatory Labour in the Gig Economy: How Employability Is Unequally Performed by Women and Men on Project-Based Platforms](#). *The British Journal of Sociology* Online First
- Mertan, T. (2026). [Platform delivery workers' protests in Turkey](#). *Capital & Class* Online First

Other Articles

Chan, Jenny. (2025) China, the Asian Studies Profession and Asia-Pacific Journal. *The Asia-Pacific Journal*. <https://apjif.org/2025/12/chan>.

Call for Papers

Conferences

Department of Sociology of Organization and Management, Institute of Sociology, Faculty of Economics and Sociology, University of Łódź, Section of Sociology of Work of the Polish Sociological Association, Section of Qualitative Sociology and Symbolic Interactionism of the Polish Sociological Association, Łódź Branch of the Polish Sociological Association, ISA Research Committee on Labor Movements (RC44) and the Critical Labor Studies Network invite you to participate in the international conference ‘Social Boundaries of Work: The Meanings of Work in Organizational Contexts’, which will be held in Łódź on October 21-23, 2026. See the details attached and on the conference website: <https://socialboundariesofwork.pts.org.pl/en/cpf/>

A list of thematic groups can be found on the conference website:

https://socialboundariesofwork.pts.org.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Thematic-groups_FIN.pdf

When submitting a shared paper, each person must register and pay the conference fee.

Timeline:

January 15, 2026 - March 1, 2026 – Registration and Paper submission via the conference form: <https://tinyurl.com/ycs7k7xk> or scanning QR code on the conference website:

<https://socialboundariesofwork.pts.org.pl/en/registration>

April 15, 2026 – Announcement of the list of accepted abstracts (reviewed by members of the organizing committee and the conference scientific council)

June 30, 2026 – deadline of registration fee payment

September 30, 2026 – Publication of the conference program

‘Labor Rights in the 21st Century’: First Call for Presentation Proposals

In an increasingly precarious and divided world, where labor rights are widely being reduced and attacked, we promote the universality of labor rights and the need to expand and improve labor rights world-wide. Furthermore, we support the mandatory inclusion of labor rights in new emerging digital jobs, and the urgent need to foster a movement to implement international laws that benefit workers in all countries. Therefore, we call on activists, academics, politicians, union leaders, and workers to share their experiences and present their ideas at the International Conference "Labor Rights in the 21st Century," to be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on November 20, 2026. This first call for presentations will be open until **March 15, 2026**. Abstracts (as well as any questions) should be sent by email to Peter Rosing Bull of Proyecto Societas: isocietas@protonmail.com.

‘Derechos Laborales en el Siglo XXI’

En un mundo cada vez más precario y dividido, en donde los derechos laborales son cada vez más reducidos y atacados, promovemos la universalidad de los derechos labores y la necesidad

de ampliar y mejorarlos. Además, exigimos la obligatoriedad de derechos laborales inclusivos con los nuevos trabajos emergentes y digitales y la urgencia de impulsar un movimiento para implementar leyes internacionales en beneficio de los trabajadores de y en todos los países. Por eso, convocamos a activistas, académicos, políticos, líderes sindicales y trabajadores interesados en compartir sus experiencias y presentar sus ideas en la Conferencia Internacional “Derechos Laborales en el Siglo XXI” que se llevará a cabo en la ciudad de Montevideo, Uruguay el 20 de noviembre de 2026. Publicación de la convocatoria: La primera convocatoria será publicada a partir del 1ro de noviembre de 2025 y estará abierta hasta el **15 de marzo de 2026**. Registro: Los resúmenes de ponencias deberán ser enviados por correo electrónico a Peter Rosing Bull de Proyecto Societas: isocietas@protonmail.com.

RC44

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Managed by **Tom Barnes**

RC44 Bluesky ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/@labourrc44)), LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter/X

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Global Labour Journal

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In solidarity,

Tom, on behalf of the RC44 Board (2023-2027)

4 Feb 2025