

LABOUR RIGHTS AS HUMAN RIGHTS?

MIGRATION, LABOUR MARKET RESTRUCTURING AND THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

UNESCO-MOST Conference, Norrköping, May 30 - June 1, 2012

Recent decades have seen remoulded or new transnational migration systems across the globe. Inter- and intra-regional migration have been propelled by major political and economic changes in Eastern Europe, massive growth of industrial and service economies such as China and India, and increasing conflict- and climate-driven refugee movements. This is accompanied by an unprecedented mobility of capital, restructuring of economies and flexibilisation of labour markets. Hence, the new political economy of migration is linked to informalisation and precarisation of work with re-enforced ethnic, racial and gender segmentations, as well as deteriorating social rights.

On this background major international organisations have sought to establish global normative frameworks for human and labour rights and fair rules for cross-border movement.

A Forum for Dialogue on Migration, “Decent Work” and Global Governance

This is the context for the Labour Rights as Human Rights? conference in Norrköping, Sweden, organised by the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity, and Society (REMESO) at Linköping University in collaboration with the International Network for Migration and Development (INMD), under the auspices of UNESCO-MOST and with financial support from The Swedish UNESCO-MOST Committee, The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research and the Swedish Research Council.

The conference will constitute a forum for dialogue between leading social scientists and stakeholders - representatives of labour unions and migrant organisations.

The dialogues centre around three key themes:

- *Migration, Precarious Work and Rights: Global and Regional Perspectives*
- *Global Governance, Migration and “Decent Work”: National Regulations and International Norms*
- *Migration, Labour Rights, and Global Governance: The Role of Civil Society*



Program May 30, 2012

Venue: Louis de Geer Concert Hall, Norrköping

9.00-10.15 Registration and coffee

10.15-11.00 Welcome and introduction

Aleksandra Ålund, REMESO, Swedish UNESCO-MOST

Helen Dannetun, Vice Chancellor, Linköping University

Kenneth Abrahamsson, Program Director, Swedish Council for

Working Life and Social Research and Swedish UNESCO-MOST Committee

Raul Delgado Wise, University of Zacatecas, INMD, UNESCO

Carl-Ulrik Schierup, REMESO, Conference Director

11.00-12.30 Keynotes

Migration, Precarious Work and Rights. Historical and Current Perspectives

Stephen Castles, University of Sydney

A Savage Sorting of Winners and Losers: Can Human Rights Take Us Beyond?

Saskia Sassen, Columbia University

Lunch break

14.00-15.30 Keynotes

The Crisis of Globalisation, Migrant Workers, and Labour Rights

Walden Bello, University of the Philippines Diliman

Migrants and Denizens - Core of the Precariat

Guy Standing, University of Bath

16.00-17.30 Panel discussion

Stephen Castles, Guy Standing, Saskia Sassen, Walden Bello

Moderator: Anders Neergaard, REMESO

Discussants: Ana Avendaño, Immigrant Worker Programme AFL-CIO

Jorge Romero Leon, Open Society Institute, New York

Please, register at: <http://sleipner.isv.liu.se/unesco-most/>

Register before May 16

For further information about the conference, visit:

www.isv.liu.se/remeso/konferenser-och-workshops/labour-rights-as-human-rights

Conference Coordinator

Branka Likić-Brborić, Lecturer

Conference Director

Professor Carl-Ulrik Schierup