

Resolution on the promotion of global peace, respect for universal human rights and international law on the occasion of the 4th IndustriALL Global Union Congress from 04. – 07.11.2025 in Sydney

Preamble

In recent decades, the world has experienced profound geopolitical and socio-economic changes that have reshaped relations between states, economies and individuals.

Globalisation has brought obvious benefits, but it has also fuelled new inequalities and tensions.

Democracies are facing an internal crisis, with a growing distrust of institutions and politicians by citizens who, exasperated, abandon themselves in the arms of those who promise them solutions to huge problems. In the world, authoritarian regimes and autocracies are growing, and in democracies, sovereignism and far-right movements seem to be advancing.

Congress reaffirms its commitment to peace, respect for international law and the protection of human rights as the cornerstone of a just and sustainable world.

In order to secure peace in today's world, a multi-layered approach is needed that encompasses both preventive and reactive measures. These include diplomacy, conflict prevention, strengthening the rule of law and civil society, and economic and social development. International cooperation and the involvement of all relevant actors, including trade unions, are crucial in this regard.

The Congress decides:

1. Protection of human rights:

Universal human rights are indivisible, inalienable and apply to all people, regardless of origin, gender, religion or political conviction. The protection of these rights is essential for the creation of peaceful and just coexistence.

We call on governments worldwide to respect and enforce international human rights standards. This includes combating discrimination, torture and arbitrary violence as well as guaranteeing freedom of expression and the right to freedom of assembly. It also includes workers' rights, in particular the ILO's core labor standards. Workers' rights are human rights.

We also call for a fair economic development, especially in the Global South, and social justice everywhere. Combating poverty and inequality, as well as creating jobs and educational opportunities, contribute to stability and peace.

2. Strengthening international law and a rules based order:

We emphasize the importance of international law and a rules based order as an essential basis for the regulation of international relations and the resolution of conflicts. International law protects the sovereignty of all states and obliges them to cooperate rather than confront each other.

We therefore call on the international community to strengthen international law and ensure its enforcement and respect for international jurisdiction without distinction, especially in conflict situations. This includes the equality of states, non-interference, the prohibition of wars of aggression, the unlawful occupation or annexation of another state's land, the prohibition of the use of force, the prohibition of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity and the prohibition of slavery. The independence and efficiency of international institutions, such as the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice, must be secured and strengthened.

Besides, dealing with war crimes and supporting victims are necessary for reconciliation and reconstruction once a war is over.

3. Strengthening International Institutions:

International Institutions and organizations such as the United Nations should play an important role in peacekeeping through their mediation and observation functions.

We call on governments worldwide to strengthen and democratize organizations such as the United Nations that need to become more representative. However, the UN needs more power and better mechanisms to enforce its resolutions, particularly those passed by the General Assembly. IndustriALL Global supports concepts and actions to strengthen the role of the UN.

4. Civil society participation:

We encourage trade unions and other civil society actors, including NGOs and human rights organizations, to actively participate in the process of peacebuilding and the defense of international law and human and workers' rights. Exchange between states and civil society is essential for a vibrant democracy.

We call on governments to encourage dialogue with civil society and not persecute civil society actors critical of the government.

5. Education and enlightenment:

We are committed to education and enlightenment about peace, international law and human rights. Education is key to shaping responsible global citizens and promoting tolerance and understanding. As trade unions, we can make a valuable contribution to this, at the workplace and in society.

6. Promotion of dialogue and arms control to create peace:

We recognize that peace is the foundation of human life and international cooperation.

We call on all states to promote sustainable peace through diplomacy and dialogue, negotiations, reconciliation and the active participation of all actors in the community or society.

We recognize that countries have the right to self-defence and to close capability gaps in their defense.

At the same time, we call on all governments to avoid spirals of escalation through arms control, especially for increasingly lethal and autonomous weapons.

7. Solidarity with victims and refugees:

We reaffirm our solidarity with the victims of war, violence and human rights violations and call on the international community to provide comprehensive support for the restoration of their rights and needs.

We call for the protection of refugees by upholding their fundamental human rights, providing emergency help with food, water, shelter and medical supplies, ensuring access to fair asylum procedures, providing safe and dignified living conditions, and supporting their integration into new communities and the labor markets. This involves a multi-faceted approach, including international cooperation, humanitarian aid, advocacy, and promoting tolerance and understanding within host societies.

We, as trade unions, are ready to participate to the best of our ability.

8. Unite – No polarization:

We call on governments to stop social polarization or put a stop to it.

At the same time, we as trade unions must resist polarization fueled by disinformation or ignorance. And we must stand up against religious intolerance and all forms of hate speech that could lead to a wider conflagration. Our solidarity is crucial at this time.

We call on all trade unions to stand against authoritarian regimes and the far right. History and many examples around the world teach us that the far right, in all its forms, undermines human and workers' rights, destroys collective solidarity and creates divisions within our societies. Its programme is based on undermining trade union freedoms, stigmatising certain sections of the population and challenging the principles of social justice and equality. Faced with this threat, we strongly affirm that the values of solidarity, equality and fraternity must remain our shared foundation.

Concluding remarks:

As trade unionists, we mourn all innocent victims of war throughout the world and stand in solidarity with them.

This resolution is a call to all states, organisations and institutions, trade unions, NGOs and individuals to work together to create a world in which lasting peace, justice and respect for human rights can be achieved for all people. Only through joint action and tireless commitment to international understanding can we shape a better future for all.

As trade unions, we stand for peace, justice, freedom, equal rights, democracy and human dignity for all. The sovereign equality of all peoples and states, the rule of law, human and trade union rights, the right of all peoples to self-determination, and the protection of minorities are non-negotiable for us.

We, IndustriALL Global, as the union family, will use and strengthen our power to regain, defend and stabilize democracies. If autocracies win, the working people will lose. Everywhere.

Humanity is indivisible! We need peace everywhere in the world.

Adopted on [date] in Sydney, Australia