



Labour
Movements

Newsletter

February 2025

Welcome to RC44's newsletter for February 2025! Please note the following:

- (1) An **important** reminder that the **deadline to register for this year's 5th ISA Forum in Rabat, Morocco (6-11 July 2025) is 22 March 2025**. To be included in the program, you must be registered by this time—the ISA will not allow any extension! To register, [visit the ISA page](#). Any queries about RC44's program of sessions should be sent to Jörg Nowak, RC44 Vice President for Program, joerg.nowak@gmx.de.
- (2) RC44 expresses its profound sadness at the tragic news regarding Michael Burawoy's passing in early February. A former ISA president, Michael's formidable research and activism was a source of inspiration for so many RC44 members and supporters, as well as many others around the world. The ISA has [acknowledged his untimely death](#) and activities honoring his life and contribution will take place at the forthcoming ISA Forum, including participation from RC44. Among many tributes over the past month, this newsletter draws attention to two, one [by Zachary Levenson](#) and another [by Ruth Milkman](#).
- (3) This newsletter also includes an important **call for action** regarding the exclusion of RC44's flagship publication, *Global Labour Journal*, from journal rankings by the multinational corporation, Clarivate. See below for more information.
- (4) RC44 has a new Bluesky account ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](#)), and we are continuing with our presence on Twitter/X for the time being. Please follow us there, as well as on our recently established [LinkedIn page](#) or [Facebook](#) (which we will look to resurrect ASAP). In addition, the RC44 Executive recently agreed that we will explore the option of establishing an Instagram page. More information to follow!!
- (5) 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 31 March.
- (6) A reminder that you are strongly encouraged to 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.

Urgent announcement:

Support the ranking of the *Global Labour Journal*!!

Dear RC44 members: we are asking for your support to advocate for the inclusion of the *Global Labour Journal* in the Web of Science (WOS Clarivate) main catalogue. GLJ is currently included in a list called Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI). From this list, journals used to be upgraded into the WOS main catalogue after a rigorous evaluation process. Since the creation of a new ranking system by Clarivate in 2022 based on journals impact factor (called JIF), the evaluation of journals in ESCI has stopped. This has prevented our journal from upgrading to the main catalogue, despite our high impact factor (corresponding to a Q2 in the WOS main catalogue). Despite our requests put forward by McMaster, our university press, Clarivate has thus far denied considering our journal until an undetermined time. Our absence from the ranking is negatively affecting GLJ vis-à-vis journals in the field with a longer history within the ranking system. Since its start, the GLJ has been an open-access journal, taking a political stance against the academic journal market. However, ranking and the visibility it brings are key to receiving high-quality submissions, and our board is keen on achieving this to ensure the journal’s future growth.

We are published by McMaster University Press, a not-for-profit publisher that publishes only open access journals. McMaster is part of the [Canadian Research Knowledge Network](#) (CKNW), the consortium representing university libraries and archives across Canada. CKNW negotiates access to WOS by contracting Clarivate’s services on behalf of member institutions. Given CKNW’s contracting role in relation to Clarivate, we are asking you to **sign a petition to back our request to CKNW to negotiate with Clarivate to have our journal evaluated for inclusion in the WOS main catalogue**. The link to the petition is [available here](#). **Please sign and circulate this petition throughout your networks.**

Publications

Journal Articles

Global Labour Journal

February 2025 (Vol. 16, No. 1)

This quarter includes a Special Issue on ‘The Gig Economy and Women Workers in the Middle East’. Edited by Stella Morgana, the Special Issue includes articles by Crystal A. Ennis, Froilan Malit, Hawra Milani, Zahra Shah and Rikke Bjerg Jensen, and Laila Mourad.

Andreas BIELER (2025). [Confronting multiple global crises: a political economy approach for the twenty-first century](#). *Globalizations*. Online First

M. NATARAJ, P. TAYLOR and K. BRIKEN (2025). [Technology and the labour process: Insights from Indian eCommerce warehouses](#). *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*. Online First

Clara MARTICORENA, Lucila D'URSO, Maia VOJNOV y Ernesto NAJMIAS (2024) "[El impacto de la pandemia en la conflictividad laboral del sector de la salud pública en la Ciudad de Buenos Aires \(Argentina\)](#)". *Revista Lavboratorio*. 34(2): 96-123

C LI, S. KURUVILLA and J. BAE (2025). [Between legitimacy and cost: Freedom of association and collective bargaining rights in global supply chains](#). *ILR Review*. Online First

N. PONS-VIGNON (2025). [Power resources and the last-mile problem in logistics: Reflections on a Swiss labour struggle](#). *New Political Economy*. Online First.

P. DASGUPTA, R. CARBERY, A. MCDONNELL and S. JOOSS (2025). [Social relations and worker resistance in the platform economy: Towards a future research agenda](#). *New Political Economy*. Online First.

Habibul Haque KHONDKER (2025). [Temporary migrant workers in transnational space: Understanding class ambiguity](#). *Zanj: The Journal of Critical Global South Studies*. 2025. 8(1-2): 28-52.

Report

Morgan Rhys POWELL (2025) [Platform Labour Protest in India](#). Leeds Index of Platform Labour Protest.

Other Articles

[Global Labour Column](#) – recent article:

- Sarah GANTER (2025) The fight for tax justice is a vital part of the workers' movement. Feb 20.

S. TIGGA (2025) [Amazon vendor's workers protest over unpaid 3 months unpaid salaries](#). *Indian Express* 11 February.

Barry EIDLIN (2025). [Why the union hate, Amazon? What's really behind the closing of Quebec operations](#). *The Globe and Mail*. 27 January.

Barry EIDLIN (2025). [Les fermetures d'Amazon au Québec sont une question de contrôle, pas de coûts](#). *Le Devoir* 28 January.

Kim SCIPES (2025). [What's Trump's game? Trying to save a weakened US empire](#). *Z Network*, February 18.

Kim SCIPES (2025). [The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet by Jeff Goodell; A Review by Kim Scipes](#). *Green Social Thought*, February 4.

Kim SCIPES 2025. “Ask the Experts,” Kim Scipes responding independently as an expert to issues raised in Adam McCann, WalletHub Financial Writer’s January 14 article, “[States That Have Made the Most Racial Progress](#).” This report was published in truncated form as Cheyanne M. Daniels, “[Texas Ranks No. 1 in Racial Progress: Report](#)” on the same day in “The Hill,” a newsmagazine about policy, politics and electoral campaigns. Also, see a report of Kim Scipes’ work in a local news report: “[A La Porte County Life in the Spotlight: Dr. Kim Scipes](#)” by Caitlyn Kingery (January 29).

Call for Papers

Conferences

Disrupting Technology Conference 2025, 16-17 Jun 2025, Centre for Employment Relations, Innovation and Change (CERIC), University of Leeds. The Disrupting Technology conference is located in the context of increasing interest and debate on the impact of digital technologies on the world of work and employment. The conference calls for more careful, empirically grounded, theorisations of technology, its novelty and its impact on work and employment relations. For more information and instructions for submission, please [visit the conference website](#). **Abstracts due 7 March 2025.**

7th Conference of the International Association of Strikes and Social Conflicts (IASSC), 5-6 September, 2025, The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center, Washington DC. Co-Organized by: The Arrighi Center for Global Studies, Johns Hopkins University and the IASSC. The 2025 IASSC conference theme is “Strikes and Social Conflicts in Hostile Environments”. While workers and other subordinate groups are always operating under conditions that limit their range of action—that is, circumscribing the kinds of protest demands or action repertoires that are considered normative or acceptable—there are historical periods and geographical spaces in which the environment is especially hostile to collective action from below. Our premise is that we have entered one of these especially hostile periods on a global scale. For more information and instructions for submission, please [visit the conference website](#). **Abstracts due 15 March 2025.**

Work, Employment & Society (WES) Conference 2025: Continuities and Discontinuities in Work and Employment. 8-10 September 2025, University of Manchester, England. British Sociological Association. This conference seeks submissions exploring continuities and discontinuities in work practices and conceptualisations, organisational landscapes, relational practices, over the last 50 years, and complex junctures of life, work and employment. [Abstract submission and full call for abstracts available online](#). **Abstracts due 21 March 2025.**

14th International Labour and Employment Relations Association (ILERA) European Congress, Durham University (UK), 10-12 September, 2025. Conference theme: “Navigating challenging times. The role of employment relations in addressing the problems caused by political uncertainty and the effects of Brexit, Covid-19, migration, technology and climate change on the workforce and labour standards.” For more information and instructions for

submission, please [visit the conference website](#). **Abstracts due 31 March 2025.**

8th annual [International Digital Labor Network \(INDL\)](#) conference, University of Bologna, Italy, September 10-12, 2025. INDL conferences provide a unique opportunity to share knowledge and new perspectives in research and practice related to digital labor. The theme of this year, "Contesting digital labor," builds on the observation that the recent rise of digital labor parallels an unprecedented surge of forms of individual and collective resistance in multiple geographies and settings. *Please note:* The conference overlaps with the British Sociological Association conference in Manchester, which is taking place from 8–10 September 2025. To submit your proposal, [visit here](#). **Abstracts due 27 April 2025.**

Announcements

Support the campaign for Labour Behind the Label: Our work is at risk - a Charities crowdfunding project in Bristol by Labour Behind the Label. For more information, [visit here](#).

In the US, LEPAIO (the Labor Education Project of the AFL-CIO International Operations) has broken the story that the Trump Administration's closure of USAID would lead to the dismantling of the Solidarity Center (see <https://aflcio-int.education/solidarity-center-website-disabled/>). For more information, please go to LEPAIO's web site at <https://aflcio-int.education/>. There is also darker side to the history of the AFL-CIO's international work, including via the Solidarity Center. For a more critical angle, please see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqJ0aWKlGng> (thanks to Kim Scipes for passing on this information).

Important reminder

Please follow RC44 on our Bluesky ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/labourrc44.bsky.social)), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn pages](#).

RC44

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RC44 Newsletter & RC44 ISA Webpage
Managed by **Tom Barnes**

RC44 Bluesky ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/labourrc44.bsky.social)), LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter/X
Moderated by **Tom Barnes**

Global Labour Journal

Editors: **Maurizio Atzeni, Elena Baglioni, Teri Caraway, Neethi P., Nicolas Pons-Vignon, Ben Scully**

Reviews Editor: **Omar Manky Bonilla**

Managing Editor: **Claire Ceruti**

Social Media Coordinator: **Christopher Raymond**

Consulting Editor: **Robert O'Brien**

In solidarity,

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

1 March 2025