



Labour
Movements

Newsletter

March 2025

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.

The March issue of *ILR Review* includes a Book Review Forum on *Workers, Power and Society: Power Resource Theory in Contemporary Capitalism* (Routledge, 2024) edited by Jens Arnholtz and Bjarke Refslund, with reviews and a response by the editors. The Forum includes contributions from RC44 members, including Adam Mrozowicki and Jörg Nowak:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ilra/78/2>

Akira SUZUKI (2025) Social movements to ban asbestos in Japan: influence of trade unions and the late development of grassroots mobilization. *Labor History*, online first.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0023656X.2024.2449065>

Xiaotian LI and Jenny CHAN (2025 “Re-Examining the ‘Entrepreneurial Self’: (Transformation of) Worker Subjectivity in China's Internet Industry.” *New Technology, Work & Employment*.

online first, <https://doi.org/10.1111/ntwe.12338>

Frido WENTEN (2024) To empower or constrain? How emergent interest representation transformed workers’ collective action in South China. *Capital and Class*, online first,

<https://doi.org/10.1177/03098168241291349>

L. FOLEY and N. PIPER (2024) Moving the goalposts in Qatar: Tracing the labour reform process by and through transnational players. *Current Sociology*, online first,

<https://doi.org/10.1177/00113921241292832>

Michele FORD and Michael GILLAN (2024) The Global Union Federations and their affiliates: Constrained agency in action. *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, online first,

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0143831X241294141>

A.-A. T. DINIKA (2025). Navigating labour's labyrinth: Developing a typology of platform work in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Platforms & Society* <https://doi.org/10.1177/29768624251318084>

S. ASHWIN, N. LOHMEYER, N. EGELS-ZANDÉN and R. ALEXANDER (2025). Going Global: Comparing Union Resourcefulness in Securing Inclusion in Supply Chain Labor Governance Initiatives. *ILR Review*, 78(3), 463-493
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00197939251321815>

P.S. CICCANTELL, et al (2025) From Africa to Amazon.com: Racialized Labor and Global Supply Chains. *Critical Sociology*, online first, <https://doi.org/10.1177/08969205251319004>

Andrew WARREN and Chris GIBSON (2025) Follow the labour process: Constructing explanations and making a difference through multi-sited ethnographic methods. *Environment and Planning A*, online first, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X251326393>

F. MASIKANE and E. WEBSTER (2025). Workers' power and platform capitalism: The embryo towards an alternative. *New Political Economy*, online first, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13563467.2025.2462132>

Rina AGARWALA and Poulami ROYCHOWDHURY (2025) The Perils and Promises of Unequal Democracy: Insights from the Sociology of India. *Annual Review of Sociology*. Vol. 51
<https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-soc-090324-022910>

Michael BURAWOY (2025) [Why and how should sociologists speak out on Palestine?](#) *The Sociological Review*, 73(2), 249-260.

This is the final article by Michael Burawoy, published posthumously followed his tragic passing in February. While the previous newsletter noted some obituaries written to commemorate his life and contributions, this newsletter also includes reference to two additional articles:

Marcel PARET 2025 [Michael Burawoy: An absolute gem](#). *Contexts*. 14 February.

Alex J. WOOD 2025 [Michael Burawoy, 1947-2025](#). *Work in the Global Economy*

Call for Papers

Journal

The *International Labor and Working-Class History journal* (ILWCH) invites submissions for a **special thematic issue on “The Global Labor History of Artificial Intelligence,”** edited by Aaron Benanav (Cornell University) and Susannah Glickman (SUNY Stony Brook). This issue aims to explore both the displacement and creation of labor that these technologies entail. We invite traditional scholarly articles (up to 8,000 words, including footnotes, before peer review) as well as shorter formats such as photo essays, transcribed interviews with workers, and field notes. We aim to represent a wide range of historical periods and places, including Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the Middle East, North and South America, Europe, and Oceania. If you would like to submit an article, please begin by submitting a 250-word abstract that outlines your research question, central argument, and contribution to the special issue. The abstract should also briefly describe the sources or evidence on which the article is based. Submit your abstract at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ilwch> as a “Special Feature Abstract.” If selected, you will be invited to submit a “Special Feature Article” through the same system.

Conferences

Conference on ‘Countervailing Platform Power: Regulation, Organizing, and Intersectional Solidarities’ will take place at Scuola Normale Superiore in Florence (Italy), 26-27 June 2025. The rapid expansion of digital platforms has profoundly reshaped labour markets, social movements, and economic structures. While platformization has exacerbated labor precarity and power asymmetries, new institutional responses and collective resistance efforts have emerged to challenge these dynamics. This conference will explore the role of migration and gender in platformized economies and labour markets while discussing strategies to counter platform power. Topics include regulation, grassroots and labor organizing, intersectional solidarities, and alternative technological infrastructures. **Submission due by 1 April 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

Reminders

(1) RC44 has a Bluesky account ([@labourrc44.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/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!!

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

RC44

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Global Labour Journal

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In solidarity,

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

1 April 2025