



Working Class Zero?

- Violations of workers' rights in Lukashenka's Belarus

The government of Belarus keeps reassuring their citizens that they enjoy more far reaching “social and economic guarantees” than people in its immediate surroundings. These “guarantees” are used to excuse gross violations of human rights and to scare people of being left out in the cold if the country divert from its current political course. But what is the reality for Belarusian workers actually like? And how can the outside world support the independent trade union movement?

The International Federation for Human Rights and the Human Rights Center Viasna (Belarus) presents their findings after extensive research on the contract system for workers, forced labour and the situation of unions fighting for human rights at work in Belarus. Welcome to a seminar about myths and reality of workers' rights in Belarus.

Panel:

Valiantsin Stefanovich (Belarus), vice chairman of the Human Rights Center Viasna, editor of the report ” *Forced Labor and pervasive violations of workers' rights in Belarus*”

(tbc) **Sacha Koulaeva** (France/Russia), head of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia desk of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)

Martin Uggla, Chairman of Östgruppen (Swedish initiative for democracy and human rights)

Anton Leppik, Adviser, Pan-European Regional Council of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Moderator: Kristina Henschen, Director LO-TCO Secretariat

The seminar will be held in English.

Time and Venue:

2 April, 3 pm – 4.30 pm. Coffee from 2.30

TCO, Linnégatan 14, Stockholm

Registration at the latest April 1st : <http://www.lotcobistand.org/seminarium-working-class-zero>