

THE 11th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF YOL-IŞ
16 - 17 FEBRUARY 2019
ANKARA, TURKEY



RESOLUTION NO.1
TRADE UNION POLICY

1. The protection and promotion of the structure, integrity and independence of the unitary state of the Republic of Turkey, secular, democratic and social state of law, parliamentary democracy, human rights, trade union rights and freedoms as well as uncompromisingly sustaining Atatürk's principles are prerequisite for the protection and promotion of economic and social rights and interests of our members and the working class as a whole. Such principal approach will be guiding the actions and policies of YOL-IS during the period of 2019 - 2023.
2. YOL-IS decisively opposes the Greater Middle East Initiative, argues that the imperialists of US, imperialist forces and their collaborationists should withdraw from states' territories which they occupied.
3. YOL-IS General Assembly disapproves the policy of European Commission that decelerates the process of membership negotiations between Turkey and the EU. YOL-IS opposes the efforts which attaches the country's future solely to EU and calls for appropriate steps considering the recent developments on the world.
4. The policies imposed by IMF, World Bank and The World Trade Organization which are under supervision and guidance of imperialist countries and transnational capital are contradict to the independency and integrity of Turkey. YOL-IS General Assembly sees those policies are nothing to do with the solution of problems. YOL-IS calls for rejection of those policies and promotion of long term solutions to be provided by way of platforms in which the trade unions be included.
5. YOL-IS General Assembly advocates the abolition of terrorist organizations' efforts of creating negativities within the country by way of an approach in keeping with democratic rules, with social consensus regardless of ethnicity, religion and political views of all citizens living within the country's borders, as well as abiding by the core principles of the Republic of Turkey and sustaining Atatürk's principles and reforms.
6. YOL-IS General Assembly calls for privatizations to be stopped, judicial decisions regarding privatizations to be implemented, public institutions to be strengthened by way of new investments, subcontracting to be abolished, jobs in public sector to be increased by making public institutions an autonomous structure.

7. YOL-IS General Assembly calls for the confiscation of assets of individuals who burglarized the state, prevention of all kinds of bribery and corruption, ensuring that everyone pay taxes commensurate with their income and wealth by establishing a fair tax system, regulation of tax bands in order to provide wage earners to receive equal pay both at the beginning and end of the year, prevention of informal economy, unregistered employment and tax evasion.
8. According to the data of the Social Security Institution, 71 % of the working population is workers. The unemployment rate, which has been transformed into a permanent structure in the country, has reached 12 % according to TURKSTAT data. Unregistered employment is 35 % though. YOL-IS calls for the resolution of the problems of the working class who maintain their lives with the labor they exert, measures to decrease unemployment and unregistered employment to decent levels, harmonization of job security with ILO Convention No.158 which previously deteriorated with the amendment to the Labor Law No. 4857 and implementation of ILO Conventions as stipulated in the Article 90 of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey.
9. YOL-IS General Assembly argues that the solution of unemployment problem, which has been transformed into a permanent structure and tends to increase, should not be left to the mercy of private sector. Thus, YOL-IS calls for delivery of necessary solution by adopting a holistic approach within the framework of social state principles and understanding, prevention of misuse of Unemployment Insurance Fund and reformulation of the conditions of right to unemployment benefit by taking into consideration the characteristics of the working life of the country.
10. After the abrogation of the Directorate General of Rural Services and transferring of workers first to the Special Provincial Administrations and then to the Metropolitan Municipalities disruptions have been occur in services to the villages. The village headmen informed the President and the relevant Ministers that they would be deprived of service if the provinces were transformed into Metropolitan Municipalities. In order for our citizens living in villages to receive adequate services, YOL-IS calls for re-introduction of the Directorate General of Rural Services or ensuring efficient service delivery to villages by preserving the current state of the Special Provincial Administrations and recruiting sufficient number of workers to meet the needs of the subject public institution instead of being taken of high cost services from subcontractors.
11. The government should not leave the market to the domination of transnational and local monopolies. As a requirement of the concept of social state, it should follow policies to reduce injustice in income distribution, protect those who are in economic hardship and eliminate the high cost of living. YOL-IS calls for raising the income of retirees to a level sufficient to live in decent conditions, creation of special units that will provide solutions to the problems of retirees and the elderly and allow them to humanely maintain their lives.
12. As a result of policies implemented in the interests of transnational capital and developed capitalist countries, farmers are relinquishing their land and are forced to migrate to cities. While the country is becoming dependent on foreign agriculture, the tradesmen and artisans in cities are rapidly liquidated. YOL-IS calls for the abandoning of pro-capitalist policies and emphasizes the necessity of setting up policies that are in favor of workers, civil servants, retired, unemployed, farmers, tradesmen and artisans, who make up the overwhelming majority of the population.
13. YOL-IS General Assembly underlines that, although the regulation of an independent occupational health and safety legislation, occupational accidents have increased in recent years, particularly in

mining and construction workplaces, and that workers' deaths have been transformed into murders. In order to prevent this negative course of events, it is mandatory to take all necessary measures without delay. The leading cause of occupational murders is the system of subcontracting that acts with the ambition of excessive profit and does not respect to human life. Thus, the occupational murders took place in mines and unorganized construction sites in the cities of Zonguldak, Soma, Istanbul and Ermenek are concrete examples. YOL-IS calls for the abolishment of the system of subcontracting by way of effective cooperation of unions, respective ministries and employer organizations, taking all necessary measures to prevent occupational accidents and diseases and ensuring of active auditing.

14. YOL-IS is committed to the protection of the right to severance pay, which is in return for the services of the workers. YOL-IS General Assembly strongly opposes to the reduction of the day and amount of severance pay and its transformation into a fund, such implementations have been liquidated as a result of failure in the past. In the event of such an initiative, General Assembly expressly declares that YOL-IS will participate in the general strike in line with the decision taken in the General Assembly of TURK-IS Confederation. It must never be forgotten that all unions are committed to the protection of the right to severance pay.
15. Implementations such as subcontracting, flexible working arrangements, precariousness, regional minimum wage and private employment agencies are all serve capitalist organizations. YOL-IS General Assembly adopts the decision on maintaining struggle against such implementations that pave the way for the deregulation of working life and affect adversely the right to organize and right for social security.
16. YOL-IS 11th Regular General Assembly asks for TURK-IS Confederation to maintain a more effective struggle in line with above mentioned understanding, in a more decisive manner and on the basis of broad alliances. Reminding that there is no legal obstacle to the direct use of the power of the working class in the political sphere, YOL-IS emphasizes the necessity of taking required democratic initiatives in order for the effective use of this power. YOL-IS adopts that it will continue to take any kind of action in the strongest way by using its legitimate and democratic rights and within the limits of the law, as it was before and so it has been.

RESOLUTION NO.2 ORGANIZING

The main source of the power of the trade unions is their members. The broader a trade union's capacity of representativeness in the industry it's organizing, the stronger it will be in the struggle to protect the interests of its members and to create a better world.

YOL-IS, has been struggling to organize under difficult conditions since its foundation and increasing the number of members each year, is the only union that has the authorization to conclude collective bargaining agreements. In public sector workplaces, where YOL-IS is fully organized, such implementations like the reduction of public investments, privatization, subcontracting, outsourcing, temporary agency work and forcing of retirement led the decrease in number of public workers, as well as in the membership of YOL-IS. The abrogation of the Directorate General of Rural Services on March 16, 2005 is another negative development affecting this process.

YOL-IS General Assembly is determined to increase the number of its members and to maintain its efficiency by organizing the workplaces of the public and private sectors in the business line in which the union is operating. In order to achieve this goal, YOL-IS General Assembly resolves decision to conduct regional and nationwide researches, to organize publicity campaigns, to maintain its organizing activities by benefiting from the experiences of the sister unions at home and abroad.

It is known that the construction sector is the sector most affected by economic crisis, high mobility of labor and seasonal conditions. Due to the nature of the sector, work is carried out on a project basis, the workplace is established for each project, the workplaces are closed at the end of the work and the seasonal conditions affect the workplace activities. YOL-IS General Assembly notes that the temporary work, seasonal work, change of workplaces and intense use of the system of subcontracting are the main obstacles in trade union organizing in the construction sector.

YOL-IS General Assembly considers organizing in the private sector as the strategic aim of the union. For this purpose, YOL-IS General Assembly resolves:

1. to mobilize all resources and potentials of YOL-IS,
2. to take action in order to remove all legal barriers to organizing,
3. to develop strategies, plans and programs targeting private sector organizing,
4. to recruit organizers,
5. to focus on and make way for organizing in union works such as trainings and publications,
6. to maintain a decisive struggle to make use of ILO Convention No.94 on Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) as an effective tool.