



WHAT ARE THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD?

The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) is a labour union with a long history (formed in the US in 1905) with presence in many countries around the world. Its members are known as Wobblies, and call each other Fellow Worker (FW).

IWW-CYPRUS?

The first Wobblies came to Cyprus in 2019, and a Cyprus Regional Organising Committee (CyROC) was formed in 2023. The IWW CyROC is not a recognised trade union in Cyprus (yet), but by signing with CyROC a worker becomes a member of the Wales Ireland Scotland England Regional Administration (IWW WISERA), an official trade union in the UK.

WHAT ARE ITS BASIC PRINCIPLES?

The basic principles and ultimate goal of the organisation are described in the short preamble of its Constitution, which remain largely unchanged since it was first written in 1905:

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.

We find that the centring of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class.

The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organisation formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries, if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system." It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organised, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organising industrially, we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old."

HOW DOES IT WORK IN PRACTICE?

IWW-CyROC is a member-led organisation of volunteers, which helps workers help themselves – mainly by providing guidance, information, methods and general support to workers trying to organise against their bosses.

There are general membership meetings happening every month, where all the members are invited to make all the decisions together.

The people responsible for the day-to-day functions of the organisation are elected once a year.

Everything in the organisation is **100% transparent** – a newsletter just for members with all the information is published once a month.

All the information regarding how the organisation works can be found in the **Constitution and Internal Rules**, available for all to see online at our website: <https://www.iww.cy/materials/texts/constitution-and-internal-rules/>

WHAT ARE THE OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS?

It is the basic obligation of each member to comply with the conditions included in the **Constitution and the Internal Rules**, as well as not to violate the decisions of the **General Assembly**. They must also not interfere in any unfair way with the functioning of **CYROC's bodies**.

It is the basic exclusive obligation of each member to see to it that they pay their dues on time. Dues for each month are paid within the first calendar week of the month in question (1st – 7th day).

Dues are defined as follows:

- i. for members with a monthly net salary of more than **€1500.00** → **€15**
- ii. for members with a monthly net salary between **€1000.00 - €1500.00** → **€10**
- iii. for members with a monthly net salary between **€500 - €999.00** → **€5**
- iv. for members with a monthly net salary below **€500** → **€2**
- v. for unemployed or self-employed members → **€1**

WHO CAN JOIN THE IWW?

Wage workers, unemployed or retired worker, students, apprentices, workers of unpaid housework, prisoners and solo self-employed workers can become members of the organisation. However, no employer or employee with direct and effective hiring and firing power (management), no government-certified law enforcement officer, and no prison guard may be a member of the IWW.

HOW DOES ONE JOIN THE IWW-CYROC?

There are two ways of joining:

- 1) Sign up yourself, by following the instructions on our website → <https://www.iww.cy/join/>
- 2) Contact us to sign you up. You can get in touch by email (info@iww.cy), social media ([Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)), or by sending a message to +357-99748830 (either SMS or through WhatsApp/Signal/Viber).

Keep in mind that access to a valid email address is necessary for membership.



AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

