

Migrant/Domestic Workers' Rights and Development of Personal and Household
Services in the EU.

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The Domestic Workers Convention (C189) has been ratified by 22 ILO member States until now. Among them, six EU member States (Italy, Germany, Ireland, Finland, Belgium and Portugal). We will see what the forces were that have campaigned and bargained for the adoption and ratification of this treaty which recognizes more rights and protections for domestic workers (i.e. trade unions, NGOs, etc.). We will also focus on discussions and resolutions that have been adopted at the European level before and after the adoption of this Convention.

Furthermore, we will also see the policies that have been implemented by the European Commission and at the EU member States level. The European Commission has been interested in domestic work since the 1990s seeing it as a sector that can create jobs.

We will also look at the relationship between policies promoted at the EU level and measures that have been implemented in member States (e.g. tax deduction/credit, a voucher system in France and Belgium), at the role of think tanks and employers' organizations while paying special attention to the actors of such policies. We shall then examine the arguments put forward to support the development of this sector in line with the growth strategy of the EU.

Thus, we have on the one hand a movement for domestic workers' rights and on the other hand attempts to develop the domestic work sector. Although it concerns the same people and the same work, there was no common approach between the two until recently. We shall see if the adoption of Convention 189 has created a change or not.