
EconWorld2019@Seville

Legacy of the Reconstruction of International Labour Movement in the Post Second World War Period within the Context of ‘Economic Growth’ and “Politics of Productivity” and Emerging Social Movements

Tolga Tören¹

¹University of Kassel, Germany

ABSTRACT

As widely agreed in the literature, although international labour movement is in crisis in the last decade of the twentieth century, by the turn of the century, there has been an upswing in the form of popular uprisings. However, despite the involvement of some trade unions in the current unrests, and despite the attempts by some labour organizations to come together with the social movements or to take up a social movement orientation, it is still necessary to discuss the question of whether the trade union movement has surpassed its crisis in playing leading role in the social unrests. In comparison with the mid-1940s, during which trade union movement was the leading element of social unrests, today, international labor movement is inadequate in directing / shaping the popular backlash, although there has been some interesting experiences. From this, the paper aims to discuss the roots of the crisis of labour movement within three axis: the reconstruction of the international labour movement in the post-Second World War, the crisis of capitalism in the early 1970s and the period since the late 1990s with particular focus on the interrelations between the traditional labour movement and the emerging social movements.

KEYWORDS international labour movement; trade unions; social movement; social compact; social unrest

JEL J01, J08, J50, J51