

No. 11**Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO**

Report for the period 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2023, made by the **Government of Finland**

on the

Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 11)

(ratification registered on 19 June 1923)

I LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

Nothing new to report.

II Direct request

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III Information on the practical application of the Conventions

On-going criminal investigations on exploitation of berry pickers do not concern the violation of the agricultural worker's right to organize.

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A copy of this report has been sent to the following labour market organisations:

1. The Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)
2. The Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)
3. The Finnish Confederation of Salaried Employees (STTK)
4. The Confederation of Unions for Academic Professionals in Finland (Akava)
5. The Commission for Local Authority Employers (KT)
6. The State Employer's Office (VTML)
7. The Federation of Finnish enterprises

Statements by the labour market organisations:**The Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)**

Finland is seeing an increase in labour market crime that manifests as labour exploitation and at worst fulfils the constituent elements of human trafficking. The victims are workers, often of foreign background, who are hired to work in conditions that have the characteristics of an employment relationship but who in fact are deceived into concluding independent contractor agreements or other private-law contracts instead of an employment contract. Such cases involve misclassification of worker status and possible forced entrepreneurship.

The exploitation of Thai pickers of wild berries that has been going on for years has only recently come to light in Finland. Pickers of wild berries are not the only group of exploited workers; worker exploitation has been seen also in glasshouse cultivation, for example.

The misclassification of workers and their forced entrepreneurship results in these workers not having access to the security that comes with an employment relationship and worker status, and also lacking any right to collective bargaining.