

Publications and Information

The IGAKK informs about its publications ("Reader") and about its activities at trade union events. In this way, other interested parties are given the opportunity to live international solidarity in practice on the basis of the methods and procedures described.



The activities of the IGAKK are exclusively based on voluntary work and were mostly privately financed by its members. With the registration as a non-profit association, supporters were able to use the opportunity to promote the activities through donations.



IGAKK e.V.

IGAKK, International Trade Union Working Group Cologne

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The IGAKK currently meets as a rule every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 17:00 - 19:00 in rooms of the DGB-Haus, Hans-Böckler-Platz 1, 50672 Cologne.

Interested parties are always welcome to participate in the concrete plans and activities as well as to determine the future focus of the work.

www.igakk.org

Publications can be downloaded from the IGAKK website

The IGAKK e.V. is recognised as a non-profit organisation, donations account:

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VR Cologne 20150

Responsible:
Dursun Ali Cicek, Chairman



The IGAKK e.V.

The **International Trade Union Working Group Cologne** (Internationaler gewerkschaftlicher Arbeitskreis Köln) was founded in April 2016 with the support of IG Metall, Cologne-Leverkusen office (but is not an "official" working group). Since 2019 it is also registered as a non-profit association.

It promotes communication and cooperation with international labour organisations. Its members are currently about 20 colleagues from ten regional works councils as well as trade unionists and multipliers.

Background

For many companies in Germany, a sister company or subsidiary abroad is now a matter of course. This means that employees are increasingly confronted with international employer strategies. A typical example of this is the creation of threatening scenarios announcing the relocation of jobs abroad. Such a threatening backdrop is not only being built up in Germany, but also in all the countries concerned.



Objective

Against this background, it is important that employees are made more aware that the border does not run between Germany and abroad, but between employees abroad and in Germany on the one hand and employers in both countries on the other.

While there are legal regulations within the EU on the information and participation of employees with corresponding bodies (European Works Council), this does not apply to the rest of the world. Only voluntary agreements exist here. This is why a trust-based exchange between employee representatives and trade unionists is particularly important in such relations

Contact Travel

The IGAKK visits foreign group branches of Cologne companies and invites them to Cologne. In 2011 Cologne trade unionists were in India; SKF and Atlas Copco were the initiators. The first, contact trip as IGAKK led to China in 2017, where several sister plants of Cologne companies from the metal industry could be visited.



As the members of the IGAKK were received with great openness, it was possible to establish lasting contacts.

In spring 2019, a one-week trip to Serbia took place, during which sister plants of Cologne and regional companies as well as trade unions were visited.



In autumn 2019, a contact trip was made to Mexico to find out about the situation of employees and trade unions in sister plants of companies from the Cologne area and to establish trust for cooperation.

Return visits to Cologne have so far been made by Mexican and Serbian trade unions.

