

**Faire Mobilität**  
**Advisory Centers for workers from Central and Eastern Europe**

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Responsibility for the project lies with the Executive Board of German Trade Union Confederation. The project is being carried out in collaboration with the bfw – Unternehmen für Bildung, the EVW – European Migrant Workers Union, the PCG – Project Consult GmbH, the DGB Bildungswerk BUND.

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Englisch

**fair** **DGB**

Arbeitnehmerfreizügigkeit  
sozial, gerecht und aktiv

**Are you working in  
Germany?**

Join a trade union –  
you'll be glad you did!

# Are you working in Germany?

Many employers fail to comply with applicable labor laws. Workers are not paid for overtime and are often threatened with dismissal when they are ill. Individuals find it difficult to assert their rights vis-à-vis their employers. If you are a union member, we can work together to improve your work situation.

**Plus,** wages and salaries do not increase by themselves or through the generosity of an employer. Only trade unions can successfully negotiate better working conditions and better wages.

Unions in Germany are funded and supported by their members. Unions are neither affiliated with political parties nor subject to government control. Unionized workers can work together to achieve fair wages, better working conditions and fair working hours. And unions can also organize

strikes, negotiate collective agreements and reach works agreements with employers.

Unions also pool their forces. The eight most important unions in Germany and their roughly 6 million members are united under the umbrella of the German Confederation of Trade Unions (Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund/DGB).

As a union member, you receive support in all matters relating to your work. You can seek advice on labor and social issues from your first day as a member. After three months as a member, you will be covered by free union legal insurance. Your legal insurance covers disputes relating to your employment relationship or social security issues.

Unions are funded by dues paid by their members. Membership dues amount to between 1 and 1.5 percent of monthly gross wages. Unemployed members pay reduced dues. Your employer will not be informed that you are a union member.

Unions in Germany represent different sectors and industries. You can find out which union is right for you at an Advisory Center or from a representative of the DGB.

## Become a union member – you'll be glad you did!

### The unions of the DGB



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