

No 1, February-March 2021

ILA INTERNATIONAL ENTERS 10th YEAR AS MEMBER



The ILA International joined the IDC in 2011 to be part of a worldwide organization that represents Longshoremen and dockworkers from all around the world. For the first time in history dockworkers have their own organization which understands their demands and concerns and can make these issues heard on an international decision-making forum.



The following ILA Locals have been members since its

273 Saint John, NB, (Canada)

1422 Charleston, SC (US)

-1414 Savannah, GA (US)

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INTERNATIONAL DOCKWORKERS' COUNCIL (IDC) Carrer del Mar, 97 Barcelona, Spain - 08003 T: +34 932 25 25 28



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What is the IDC?

The IDC (International Dockworkers Council) is a trade union federation made up of port workers' organizations from all over the world. Its basic principles define it as a working class, unitary, independent, democratic, representative and assembly-based organization.

IDC currently have over 120,000 port workers affiliated worldwide, a figure that is increasing as new trade unions join the IDC. The IDC was officially founded on June 27, 2000 in Santa Cruz



de Tenerife (Canary Islands), Spain.







What is the IDC's mission and purpose?

The IDC's mission is to uphold labor standards that will improve the economic and social well-being of port workers around the world. The IDC serves as the voice for all dockers around the globe to form fair and sustainable policies, and to promote the best practices across the maritime sector.

The internal structure of the IDC is led by the General Coordinator (Dennis A. Daggett, also the ILA Executive Vice President), whose project and programme of action has been

previously approved by the General Assembly.

The federation headquarters are located in the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (Spain) where the IDC Secretariat is located. This office is responsible. among other things, for day-today management, direct contact with affiliated members. coordination of the IDC's institutional presence at international level, Public Relations and Press activities, financial management and coordination of the Assemblies and Commissions.



Why is the IDC an international organization?

The current globalisation of the economy is leading to global markets and greater manpower flexibility. The aims of global companies seeking greater operating profit margins lead to deregulation of the port industry and constantly undermine previously won labour rights.

Ports, and port workers worldwide, are therefore facing a series of common problems. These include loss of jobs, a reduction in the quality of service, an increase in the risk of accidents, job insecurity, etc.

The trade union response to this situation has been to form the IDC, the only organization capable of bringing together the different port dockworker groups and unions with a single voice on an international scale. Through the IDC, port workers can put forward their demands in international decision-making forums, through an organization of their own that understands and fights for their demands and concerns.



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A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

Why was the IDC formed?

During the 1990's in Liverpool, England the antiworkers government led by Margaret Thatcher took away workers rights and this forced some of the main sectors to strike. Included in these strikes were miners, railway workers and, of course, dockworkers.

The dockers asked for help from the ITF (International Transport Workers Federation) but their leaders were against assisting them. The Liverpool dockers were beaten but their defeat was used to create an international organization where dockers worldwide can come together with the idea that what happened in Liverpool will never happen again. The IDC was born!

The dockers from this port immediately created the motto "We will never walk alone again".











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Countries around the World where IDC operates

Argentina Australia Belgium Benin Brazil Cameroon Canada Chile Colombia Croatia Cuprus Denmark Dominican Rep. Ecuador El Salvador France Gambia Ghana Greece Guatemala Guinea Bissau Guinea Conakri Honk Kong India Ivory Coast Malta Mauritania Mexico Montenegro Nicaragua Norway Paraguay Peru Portugal Reunion Island Senegal

Slovenia

Somalia

Spain





Sweden Togo United Kingdom

Uruguay United States of America Venezuela

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