

## **XI EDITION OF THE ILO ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY**

### **"THE SOCIAL ECONOMY IN THE FUTURE OF WORK" MANIFEST**

The XI edition of the ILO Academy of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) was organized from October 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2019 in Madrid, named "The Social Economy in the Future of Work", by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security of Spain, in collaboration with the Spanish Business Confederation of the Social Economy (CEPES).

More than 350 participants from 40 countries, government representatives -national, regional and local-, business and trade union organizations, social economy companies and entities, international organizations and academic and research staff attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Academy.

The conclusions of the XI ILO Academy contribute to debate the role of the Social and Solidarity Economy in the future of work, in accordance with the ILO Centenary Declaration, adopted at the International Labor Conference held in June 2019 in Geneva, where the Social and Solidarity Economy is seen as a main source of economic growth and job creation, together with the other business actors, capable of generating decent work, productive employment and better living standards for all.

It has also been confirmed that the Social Economy is a key actor to achieve all the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

The Social Economy is a first-class business reality, it is present in all economic sectors. In Spain, CEPES embodies the interests of more than 42,000 companies, representing 10% of GDP and 2.2 million direct and indirect jobs. In the European Union, Social Economy has more than 3.2 million companies and entities, which generate 8% of GDP and 13.6 million jobs. In the world, it represents 7% of GDP and employment.

The Spanish Government, as host of the Academy, shows its commitment to this consolidated business model, which enjoys great stability. The Spanish government is also pledged to the Academy's values of internal solidarity and with society, which turn into stable, quality employment, social cohesion, equality, inclusion and sustainability.

The debates, based on business and trade union experiences, Social Economy organizations and networks, the knowledge of the scientific community and the practice of public policies held at the 11th Academy, confirm that the Social Economy:

- Creates and maintains stable, quality jobs, ensuring young people's access to the labour market and the promotion of effective gender equality.

- Promotes competitiveness and business diversity, with a business model that corrects social and territorial inequalities through a fairer wealth redistribution.
- It is a pioneer in social and technological innovation, offering solutions to economic, social, digital, technological, energy or demographic challenges, also from R&D&I.
- Facilitates the sustainable development of the territories, rooting the population, avoiding move and putting in value their natural, cultural and tourist resources.
- Strengthens the Welfare State and the social model, facing the consequences of demographic change.
- Promotes a productive model that favors economies decarbonization, and improvements in renewable energies production and in the circular economy.
- Contributes providing high-quality social services.
- Fosters social inclusion and equal opportunities for all, especially those with disabilities and others at risk of social exclusion.

The Social and Solidarity Economy faces important challenges in adapting to the future of work, and at the same time helps respond to technological changes, energy transition, digitalization and environmental and demographic imbalances and correcting inequalities.

The Academies of Social and Solidarity Economy are key forums for mobilization and consideration on this business model at the global level. Strengthening this initiative is a priority, coordinating it with the tripartite constituents of the ILO and with organizations representing the social economy.

All things considered, the 11th Academy of Social and Solidarity Economy,

#### MANIFESTS:

- That it is necessary to join the Social Economy and its representative organizations into the debates and initiatives for the full attainment of the goals of the ILO Centennial Declaration. Therefore, ILO may draw up an action plan on Social Economy contribution in decent work and against precarious employment;
- That it is proposed to state, regional and local governments to include the Social Economy in their policies aimed at the effective achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- That establishing a United Nations Resolution on the Social Economy that recognizes and promotes these companies and entities is a priority.
- Governments, European and regional institutions and international organizations should be urged to strengthen the visibility and competitiveness of Social Economy enterprises through public policies and other initiatives.



- That it is necessary to organize conferences and events that show Social Economy reality and importance and facilitating initiatives exchange and coordination for defining appropriate legal frameworks and public policies for the Social Economy.
- That the Social and Solidarity Economy be incorporated into the educational systems at all levels from primary to university, as well as promoting training to its workers to face the changes in the future of work.
- That close collaboration be fostered between expert staff, research centers, statistical institutes and Social Economy companies and organizations to establish and disseminate methodologies and instruments, including impact measurement, all the above aiming to create more and better jobs.

Madrid, October 18<sup>th</sup> 2019.