

# BUILDING WORKERS' POWER

**4<sup>TH</sup> ITUC WORLD CONGRESS - COPENHAGEN, 2-7 DECEMBER 2018**

*UNIONS AT WORK*

*WHAT IS YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT WIN 2014 -2018?*

You and your affiliated unions have been on the frontlines of many struggles since we met in Berlin in 2014.

We want to document and share with all Congress delegations to the ITUC World Congress 2018 the most significant victories of trade unions during the period 2014 to 2018.

Can you describe the struggle and the outcome using the template we have prepared and provide a photo and quote from a union leader and trade union member? Send your most significant win to [congress@ituc-csi.org](mailto:congress@ituc-csi.org)

**Name of national trade union centre or union:**

Federation of Korean Trade Unions

**Country:**

Republic of Korea

**Most significant union victory [Headline in 6 words]:**

Contribution to Regime Change and Creation of the Democratic Government

**Description of the issue or dispute [200 words]:**

Republic of Korea saw a historic and remarkable turning point last year. Korean people and workers were successful in creating a new democratic government by a series of candlelit vigils and continued demands for democratisation. In the course of the democratisation process, Federation of Korea Trade Unions(FKTU) held candlelight vigils along with Korean people in order to make the country a better place to live for everyone, and greatly contributed to the establishment of the current government.

The FKTU concluded a policy agreement with the current president with the aim of building a society in which workers are fairly treated without being discriminated against. It was a decisive resolution to achieve sustainable and balanced development as well as social integration of the Republic of Korea.

In the policy agreement, the FKTU and Moon agreed to the following:



**CHANGE  
THE  
RULES**

the urgent striving toward the establishment of an industrial ecosystem where coexistence and co-prosperity are achieved to realize economic democratisation; the full protection of basic labour rights, representation of interests of all workers, and reinforcement of worker protection; the guarantee of a decent minimum wage; the creation of decent jobs; the reduction of working hours; and the achievement of employment stability.

**Detail of the campaign or strategy [100 words]:**

- The FKTU took a vote of all union members in order to select a candidate to support in the 19th presidential election. On the basis of the result of the vote, The FKTU proclaimed that it would fully support then presidential candidate Moon Jae-in and make organisational efforts for his victory. As a result, the FKTU could greatly contribute to the establishment of the Moon Jae-in government .
- For implementation of the policy agreement, the FKTU participated in the policy making body soon after Moon's victory in the presidential election was confirmed. The FKTU gave advice on setting up state affairs from the perspective of workers.
- Meanwhile, the FKTU proposed an eight-party meeting involving president Moon to restore confidence in social dialogue that is a key to build a society in which labour is respected. And it served as a momentum to improve the existing tripartite.
- In addition, the FKTU set a goal of doubling membership under the belief that the alleviation of social polarisation and the protection of workers' rights can be only achieved by union growth.

**Photo and quote from union leader [20 words]:**

"The FKTU will make our utmost efforts to lay the foundations of the society in which labour is respected."





Photo and quote from member [20 words]:

"A country which is good for workers is a good country, and the dignified owner of a new Korea will be the workers."

