

# 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:**

Histadrut – General Federation of Labour in Israel

**Country:**

Israel

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

Health and Safety in the Workplaces

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

The Histadrut's decision to declare a general labor dispute and to hold a general strike in the economy came against the background of ongoing lawlessness and neglect in the area of safety at work in the entire Israeli economy, and especially in the construction sector. Since the beginning of 2018, 41 workers and passersby have been killed in Israel and more than 184 people have been injured.

Histadrut Chairman Avi Nissenkorn warned that if the governmental authorities and employers continue to ignore the issue and take no significant steps to reduce the damage to workers, the Histadrut will declare and operate a general labor dispute in the Israeli economy. After several months passed and no operative steps were proposed by the state



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and employers to correct the issue, Nissenkorn promoted the approval of the declaration of the dispute and the striking of the Israeli economy on November 7, 2018.

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

Campaign in the media, general labour dispute in the economy and threat of a general strike in the Israeli economy.

the strike was averted since agreements were reached which regulate the issue of safety in the workplaces and in the construction industry in particular.

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



Histadrut Chairman Avi Nissenkorn: "This is the right and moral thing that should have been done long ago. I welcome the fact that in the end the State recognized its obligation and responsibility to regulate the matter. Thanks to the struggle, we succeeded in finding real solutions to improve safety in work and in the construction industry in particular, without one day of strike in the Israeli economy."

**Photo from campaign:**



People holding posters on which it is written: "Work to live. Not to die. Fighting for safety in the workplace."