

HAZARDS CAMPAIGN

International Workers Memorial Day

#IWMD24



Climate Risks for Workers

Every year on 28 April all over the world, trade unions, workers, and families hold remembrance events to mark International Workers Memorial Day because work continues to kill millions globally every year, and over 50,000 in the UK, 140 a day before the pandemic arrived to make things worse.

'Improving health protection at the workplace would help address effectively the challenges of global environmental change and achieve environmental sustainability. Initiatives include climate-friendly and safe constructions, sustainable modes of provision of renewable energy, reduction or safe management of exposure to chemicals, radiation and waste, sustainable provision of water and access to reliable occupational health services' **World Health Organisation**

A September 2023 [just transition policy brief](#) from the UN employment rights agency notes the climate crisis “without proper controls in place, may increase the risk for injury, disease and death for workers due to heat stress, extreme weather events, exposure to hazardous chemicals, air pollution and infectious disease, among others.”

ILO adds: “Numerous health effects on workers have been linked to climate change, including injuries, cancer cardiovascular disease, respiratory conditions, and effects on their psychosocial health. There has been an increase in the estimated number of deaths among the global working-age population due to exposure to hot temperatures.” <https://www.hazards.org/climate/dyingjobs.htm#winning>

[#iwmd24 | The climate crisis and workers' health | 28 April](#)

The Hazards Campaign brought Workers Memorial Day to the UK in 1990s with twin aims, to Remember the Dead and also to Fight for the Living. We call on workers across the UK to join workers across the world to take action on 28th April and to share your event on <https://www.tuc.org.uk/iwmd-events>

Hazards Campaign 2024 resources and information

What are you doing for International Workers Memorial Day?

- ❖ Hold a **one minute silence at 12.00** to remember all those who have died because of work.
- ❖ Are you organising an **online event or a socially distanced event** at your workplace? - have you arranged for a speaker from FACK Families Against Corporate Killers (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16054748370>) or the Hazards Campaign? If you need one please contact me and we can try to arrange it.
- ❖ Although IWMD - International Workers Memorial Day is on April 28th there are events taking place across the week, and **put your event on the map** - 28April.org
- ❖ Are you going to **read out the names of people from your sector, industry or region**, who have died this year because of work? - see HSE fatalities RIDDOR reported list <https://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/fatalities/2023-24.htm>
- ❖ Use the **Hazards Campaign 'Whole Story'** numbers to talk about the true number of people who have died over the last 12 months because of work - <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/thewholestory>
<https://gmhazards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/The-Whole-story-2024.pdf>
- ❖ If you know of anyone who has been killed because of work put their name on the Workers Memorial Wall <https://www.tuc.org.uk/workers-memorial-wall>

Resources are available to purchase from GMHC - which include forget-me - knot purple ribbons, face coverings, car stickers, and posters
- <https://gmhazards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Resources-to-support-IWMD24.pdf>

More information and organising tools can be found at:

- ❖ *International events - 28april.org*
- ❖ *Hazards magazine information/resources - <https://www.hazards.org/wmd/background.htm>*
- ❖ *Hazards Campaign information and resources - <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/workers-memorial-day>*
- ❖ *TUC information and resources - <https://www.tuc.org.uk/international-workers-memorial-day-iwmd>*
- ❖ *ITUC climate change - <https://www.ituc-csi.org/climate-change>*
- ❖ *ITUC global shifts – just transition <https://www.ituc-csi.org/global-shifts>*
- ❖ *Hazards climate and workers' health <https://www.hazards.org/climate/>*

Use the hashtag on social media **#IWMD24** to spread the word

Films to use on #IWMD24:

- ❖ *Lean on Me – Families against corporate killers supporting families of those killed at work, <https://youtu.be/iKgHh4ODnU>*
- ❖ *Hazards Campaigners talking about IWMD means to them. <https://youtu.be/GcP0KzWg0mY>*
- ❖ **Fallen tears** <https://youtu.be/HdXICUM9IBI>
- ❖ Carol Harte's film of Tommy Harte bringing IWMD to the UK https://youtu.be/aE_Q6YDM-Pw
- ❖ What is International Workers' Memorial Day <https://youtu.be/OB80D0MD0w0>
- ❖ *FACKers tell their stories: 'Face the FACKs: the Human Face of Corporate Killing'*
[Face the FACKs Part 1](#) [Face the FACKs Part 2](#)
[Face the FACKs Part 3](#) [Face the FACKs Part 4](#)

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