

HAZARDS CAMPAIGN

International Workers Memorial Day

#IWMD25



AI and digitisation impact on the fundamental right of Occupational health and safety

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.

Every year workers memorial day is held under the heading of Remember the Dead and Fight for the Living around a campaigning issue. The theme for this years workers memorial day campaign is AI and digital platforms and their impact on workers health and safety.

‘Although Artificial Intelligence (AI) could be used to mitigate monotonous work, AI at work is increasing work intensification, monitoring and surveillance, generating negative impacts on mental and physical wellbeing, as workers experience the extreme pressure of constant, real-time micromanagement and automated assessment. (ITUC)

AI IS NOT OK | Union action needed on Artificial Intelligence (AI) at work

‘Rory O’Neill, advisor for the ITUC on Occupational Health and Safety Standards warns management by machine is hard at work, and it will take real union smarts to control Artificial Intelligence.’

AI includes micro management that uses in-vehicle and in-home cameras, monitoring of emails and files, webcams on work computers. AI is used to allocate tasks, track workers and negate workers’ right to appropriate breaks, leading to work related stress. AI is infiltrating all our working lives and leading to unacceptable pressures through pervasive monitoring and target-setting technologies, serious injuries and ill health.

<https://28april.org/>

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 2025 resources and information



<https://wcml.org.uk/event/do-workers-need-protecting-from-ai/>

What are you doing for International Workers Memorial Day? #IWMD25

- ❖ 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/2024-25.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>
- ❖ 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>
- ❖ If you know of a place that is can be lit up purple for the day for example Blackpool Tower, Town Halls etc, then ask the appropriate authorities.
- ❖ Ask for the town hall flag to be flown at half-mast in remembrance of those workers killed because of their work

Resources:

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/2025/01/Resources-to-support-International-Workers-order-sheet-2025-DRAFT2.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>*

Use the hashtag on social media **#IWMD25** to spread the word

Films to use on # IWMD25:

- ❖ 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

For more information, contact Janet or William
janet@gmhazards.org.uk / william@gmhazards.org.uk

IWMD25

