

Committee : International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Issue : Does technology help or hinder the working conditions ?

Author : Russia

We are living in an area based on technology. During the past decades, the Internet and all sort of innovations haven't stopped to develop and to spread around the world. Technology has today reached a major role in the economy. As one of the biggest stakes of the decade and maybe century, technology also has an important impact on the labour and on the workers.

Russia is really concerned with the evolution of technology and put a lot of hope on this emerging sector. Today, Russia offers an amazing technologic potential unfortunately it isn't fully exploited yet. Russia accounts a huge amount of engineers and computer scientists. We have a lot of Information and Communication Technology Starts Up. Our country is ranked as the 25th in term of innovation according to the Bloomberg Index. Although, the Internet and technologies aren't accessible and developed enough in the Russian countryside. However, according to the Social Business Group, the part of workers telecommuting has increased from 2% to 16% during the lockdown.

Russia has signed in 1992 an agreement establishing an International Science and Technology Centre and has also participated in 2011 to the Convention on International Information Security. Our goals, by developing the Information and Communication Technology are many and varied. First, we think that this sector could become a real source of job's creation for our population. We also want to extend the access to Internet, to the whole Russian population. Then, technology could certainly become a major economic activity for Russia and probably create wealth, participating in our country's GDP. Technologies could considerably improve our productivity as a complement of the human work. Russia wants to diversify its economy which is currently too dependent on the fossil fuels. Moreover, during the current sanitary crisis, it has become more important than ever to innovate and support the scientific research. We want to offer the access to digital education and work to everyone. Then, we think that AI respond to many security issues, that's the reason we would like to use the facial recognition.

Since the fall of the USSR in 1991, Russia has been trying to rebuild and to develop as much its economy as its population living and working conditions. Our country have wanted to support the Information and Communication Technology sector for years by an innovation policy and is willing to pursue it. We wants to invest and financially support the TIC starts up and the scientific university programs to increase the Russian Innovation. By this policy we are hoping to avoid the brain drain and to educate a new generation of TIC workers. Russia is aware of the risks that represent the omnipresence of the technologies and AI in the life of our population. However, our country wants to protect the working conditions of our workers and their privacy.

Russia has participated in many conventions and treaties about the development of technologies and the information security. We have promoted for years the innovation, in the aim of helping the economy, the population, its work and its security. Our country estimates than technology help more than it hinder the working conditions.