

(Re)Learning Moment

World Day of Social Justice

On November 26, 2007, the United Nations (UN) declared February 20 as World Day of Social Justice. Since 2009, this annual observance focuses on creating a global effort to eliminate poverty, physical and gender discrimination, racism, religious discrimination, illiteracy, and biases. This global effort began at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Denmark where over 100 political leaders pledged to focus on alleviating poverty, increasing full employment, and creating stable, safe, and just societies. These individuals developed the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, which United Nations member states reviewed in 2005.

(Re)Learn World Day of Social Justice

- [2023 Theme: Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice](#) - webpage by the United Nations describing this year's theme
- [The ILO and the Quest for Social Justice](#) - video presenting the 90-year history of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) work toward social justice
- [Unprecedented Gathering Adopts Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action](#) - article from the UN Chronicle (1995) documenting the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action
- [The World Day of Social Justice: Mary Robinson's Comments](#) - video of comments from Mary Robinson (High Commissioner for Human Rights and former president of Ireland) on the first World Day of Social Justice
- [World Day of Social Justice \(Resolution\)](#) - United Nations resolution naming February 20th World Day of Social Justice

2023 Commemorative Event

On February 20, 2022, at 1:15 p.m. ET, the Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN and the International Labour Organization (ILO) are convening [a commemorative meeting](#) of the 2023 World Day of Social Justice with the theme "Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice".