



## NATIONAL DAY OF PREVENTION AND SAFETY AT WORK

The National Day for Prevention and Safety at Work is celebrated on 28 April, with the purpose of honouring the victims of accidents at work and occupational diseases.

In Portugal, this day was established as National Occupational Prevention and Safety Day by the Resolution of the Assembly of the Republic No. 44/2001 of 27 June, which recommended to the Government to conduct an awareness-

raising campaign on this day, with the aim of reducing accidents at work and occupational diseases.

### HISTORY TO THE PRESENT DAY

The first ceremony took place in 1996, in New York, at the United Nations, where a memorial was built to remember those who lost their lives in work-related accidents or contracted illnesses. This first Day of Mourning established the

International Day of Mourning for the Victims of Work Accidents and Occupational Diseases.

In 2001, this commemoration was recognised and supported by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and is now officially celebrated in many countries as an integral part of the strategy for safety and health at work and the promotion of a global culture of safety.

Thus, and since 2002, ILO has been fighting for a reduction in accidents at work and occupational diseases by choosing each year, a theme to raise awareness among all actors in the world of work. This year the theme chosen focuses on the inclusion of "a safe and healthy working environment" as a fundamental principle and right at work.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE DAY

The aim is to alert the community to the fact that everyone has the right to a safe and healthy environment at their workplace, along with the importance of the mental and physical wellbeing of workers.

The prevention of accidents at work should also be a concern for companies, and an effort is also required from workers.

Information campaigns are sought to raise awareness among employers and workers about the risks to which they are exposed, as well as about the means of protection they should use when carrying out their work. It is urgent that a safety culture is instilled from an early age in young people, who are the workers of tomorrow. Informed workers are safer workers.

#### MOST RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE LABOUR CODE - DRAFT LAW NO. 15/XV

In the most recent alterations to the Portuguese Labour Code, the growing concern for the well-being of workers in their workplace is visible.

Issues of this nature were added and/or deepened, such as the absence of workers due to gestational bereavement, corresponding to article 38-A, and the changes to the paternity regime, in order to achieve greater protection of paternity. A new figure was also added to the labour legislation: the caregiver worker, which is provided for in article 101-A of the Labour Code.

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