

Plenary Sessions

The following plenary presentations will be made during the Congress:

Provisional Title: **Moral hazard, transaction costs and the reform of public service employment relations**

Lorenzo Bordogna, University of Milan.

Title: **Labour law and economic development: calibrating and comparing regulatory regimes**

Simon Deakin, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law and Centre for Business Research, University of Cambridge, UK

Title: **Globalisation in two worlds: A comparison of conditions of employment in Europe and Asia**

Dr. François Eyraud, Executive Director of the ILO and Director of the Turin Centre

Title: **Towards multi-level governance in industrial relations: mapping the field**

Ida Regalia, Professor of Comparative Industrial Relations, University of Milan

Title: **Labor and Civil Society: Building a Social Justice Infrastructure**

Lowell Turner, Professor of International and Comparative Labor, School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University

Additionally there will be two **expert roundtable plenaries** during the Congress.

The first will be on '**Perspectives on Contemporary British Industrial Relations**', chaired by Rita Donaghy, Chair of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Services. Speakers will be leading representatives of British unions and employers and a senior academic.

The second is on the theme: **Employment relations in Europe: future directions**

This will be chaired and moderated by Colin Crouch, Professor of Governance and Public Management, Warwick Business School, University of Warwick, UK.

Speakers:

Renate Hornung-Draus, Director European and International Affairs, German Confederation of Employers (BDA)

Mária Ladó, Director Inter-ministerial Working Group on Social Policy, Hungarian

Ministry of Economic Affairs
John Monks, General Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation

A **special plenary** will be held at the Congress to mark the 40th Anniversary of the IIRA on the theme: **Industrial relations, past and future. What next for the IIRA?**

The IIRA was established in 1966 by the British Universities Industrial Relations Association (UK), the Industrial Relations Research Association (USA), the Japan Institute of Labour and the International Institute for Labour Studies of the International Labour Office in order to develop and exchange knowledge on industrial relations issues at the international level and to provide the academics and practitioners with a forum for discussion and research.

In 2002 the IIRA proposed an institutional history recording the contributions of the association during its existence. The result was the 2004 publication *The global evolution of industrial relations. Events, ideas and the IIRA* by Bruce Kaufman. It contains not only the history of the activities of the IIRA, but also describes and discusses the evolution of industrial relations around the world during the last four decades. The book has been an ILO bestseller and received numerous positive reviews worldwide.

Following this publication and to mark the IIRA's 40th anniversary the Executive Committee of the IIRA has decided to organize a round table discussion on the occasion of the 8th European Regional Congress with leading academics and practitioners in this area, the main purpose being an open discussion on the future of industrial relations as a field of study and the future direction to be taken by the IIRA.