

Root causes of caste-based slavery and exploitation in South Asia and how to start tackling them

Side session at the OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector

14 February 2025, 12:30-14 CET

Register on Zoom now: <https://tinyurl.com/OECDSideEvent2025>

Why attend?

- If you source textiles or leather from South Asia this session is essential to end forced, bonded and child labour and exploitation in your supply chains
- You will hear from speakers from the affected communities with invaluable insight into the problems and how to start solving them
- This session will help you comply with the EU CSDDD and Forced Labour Regulation, UK Modern Slavery Act and US Forced Labor Act

Panellists:

Bhagwani Bai Rathore, Pakistan Dalit Solidary Network (PDSN) speaking on child and bonded labour in garment and leather supply chains in Pakistan.

Jeeva M, Tamil Nadu Textile and Common Labour Union (TTCU) and garment worker, speaking about exploitation of women garment workers and giving a case example of how to work on lasting solutions with brands and suppliers.

R. Karuppusamy, Rights Education and Development Centre (READ), providing guidance on how to address caste and gender-based violence and exploitation in garment factories in South India.

Peter Williams, Homeworkers Worldwide, focusing on homeworkers working on garments and leather goods in South Asia and offering strategies on how to identify and mitigate exploitation and human rights abuses.

Martje Theuws, Advocating Rights in South Asia (ARISA), sharing insights and findings from research on caste-based discrimination in textiles, leather and garment supply chains and cottonseed production in South Asia.

Moderator: Meena Varma, International Dalit Solidarity Network

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