

Work, Precarity and Justice

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Abstract

The "Work, Precarity and Justice" Project (TrabJus) was funded by the Lusófona Group's "Fazer +" Program to Encourage Science and Pedagogical Innovation, with an expected duration of 18 months, starting on October 1, 2021. The project, coordinated by António Monteiro Fernandes and Carolina de Freitas e Silva, involved Master's and PhD students, early career PhD researchers and a guest researcher.

The goals of this project, which was clearly multidisciplinary in nature, were threefold.

The first was to carry out a study on the legal theory and practice of combating precarious employment, grounded on "field" research comprising a significant number of court cases. The aim here was to see whether the legal system provides adequate answers to the many questions revealed by practice. To carry out this work, two students from the Computer Engineering course at the Lusófona University (Lisbon) developed a computer application under the guidance of a professor to collect data and extract quantitative reports from the cross-referenced data.

The second objective was to carry out a study on some philosophical, social, legal and economic aspects, taking into account two inseparable aspects of human work: the first is based on the idea that work is an economic variable, a cost of production, an objective to be taken into account by the entrepreneur when drawing up his business strategy, and the second is based on the idea that work is an intrinsic and ineradicable manifestation of the dignity of the human person. Once these foundations have been established, the aim was to contribute to theoretical reflection on the path that can be taken to meet at least two of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda goals.

Finally, the third objective was to develop a study on "remote work", from an essentially legal perspective, in light of the relevant national and European legislation, but also taking into account the challenges posed by the realization of a way of providing work that is considered "sustainable" and at the same time leads to work that contributes to economic development and is dignified.