



# MOBILEurope

Collective bargaining for mobile workers  
in Europe under the COVID19 – cases of  
frontier, seasonal and migrant workers

## Inclusion and Equity: The Struggle of Migrant Workers in Europe during the Health Crisis

The inclusion and equity of migrant workers in Europe during the health crisis have been topics of great importance and debate as the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the lives of people across the region. Here are some of the key issues related to migrant workers' fight for inclusion and equity during the crisis:

**1. Vulnerability of migrant workers:** Migrant workers, for the most part, are in jobs that are essential, but poorly paid, such as in the health sector, agriculture, construction and the food industry. These workers face an increased risk of exposure to the virus due to working conditions and lack of adequate protective equipment.

**2. Difficulties in accessing health care:** Many migrant workers face barriers to accessing health care, whether due to their irregular immigration status, lack of information about their rights, or discrimination in the health system.

**3. Overcrowding and poor housing conditions:** Migrant workers often live in overcrowded conditions and poor-quality accommodation, increasing the risk of spreading the virus. This has been evident in agricultural labor camps and in shared accommodation in cities.



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**4. Discrimination and stigmatization:** The pandemic has exacerbated discrimination and stigmatization towards migrant workers in some cases. Stigmatizing certain groups of migrant workers can lead to social exclusion and discrimination in access to basic services.

**5. Access to information:** Information on health and safety measures, as well as workers' rights, has often not been effectively disseminated to migrant workers, hampering their ability to protect themselves and to their communities.

**6. Government response and civil society organizations:** Some European countries have taken measures to address these issues, such as providing free testing and medical care, temporarily regularizing migrant workers in some sectors, and improving accommodation conditions. Additionally, civil society organizations and human rights groups have played a crucial role in the fight for inclusion and equity for migrant workers.

**7. Need for more inclusive and equitable policies:** The pandemic has highlighted the importance of developing more inclusive and equitable policies that address structural inequalities and protect the rights of everyone, regardless of their origin or immigration status.

In short, the health crisis has underlined the need to address the inequalities and barriers faced by migrant workers in Europe. The inclusion and equity of these workers are fundamental to guarantee the security and well-being of society as a whole, and require a coordinated response from governments, civil society and the international community.



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