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THE RIGHT TO STRIKE OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS

The specific sources of international labour law – the Staff Regulations of international organizations do not provide international civil servants employed in the secretariats and offices of international organizations with the right to organize and participate in strikes. In practice, strikes of international civil servants take place. The rules of their organization were agreed by social partners in the model agreement concluded on 20 September 1974 between the Commission of the European Communities and the trade unions of the employees of the Community institutions. The main advantage of the arrangement is the explanation of systematically presented uncertainty whether the administrative staff of international organizations have the right to undertake collective actions, in particular to organize strikes. The agreement clearly answers the question, and the annex to this agreement presents conditions for initiating and conducting legal strikes. For the strikers, the provision granting an immunity from liability for participating in a legal strike is particularly important. The agreement, which is presented in the article, is used by the administrative tribunals of international organizations in order to assess the legality of strikes organized by international civil servants.