

Information Technology Workers Solidarity Network in Turkey

➤ Who are we?

Some of us are programmers, some of us are network operators, some of us are system analyzers, some of us are testers and others work in heavy industry. The work is intensive. We often have to work a lot of overtime. Almost 24/7 we are working for the corporations.



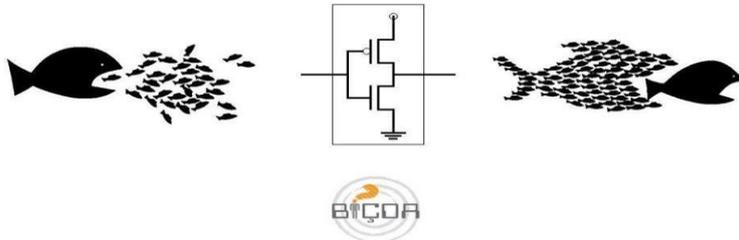
The company tried to pretend that we were part of a big family since we were all professionals but that was a lie so that they could get us to work harder with little pay. We were told that our career opportunities were unlimited just to get us to work harder

Unfortunately, some of us feel for it but now we are waking up to this lie and so we are getting together to tell other techs that they too should “wake up and smell the coffee” because they will continue to be cheated by the bosses if they don’t.

All promises are lies; hardworking people were receiving either very little response from their bosses or, in most cases none at all. In addition, we do not have job guarantees, and some of us get security payments at the minimum wage. Moreover, we are losing our pension rights. We have very few holidays. Even on holidays we are forced to work; that is, we are expected to complete projects, do maintenance and provide customer support. Because we are expected to be constantly working, our rights have been taken away and although we give our best to the companies which tell us we are all like “family” we receive no increase either in pay or in benefits.

And then the day came when we found ourselves talking about the same problems with other friends. Yes, the problems are the same, but what about the solution? The fact that we all suffer from the same problems should provide us with some solutions. In solidarity there is strength!

In solidarity with each other, to be informed about our rights and related legislation; to educate each other; to share our work experience; to avoid being alone in this huge sector and to be an address for the solidarity of IT workers. Thus, we set up Information Technology Workers Solidarity Network in Turkey (Biçda). We came together to implement this program.



We need all workers’ support and solidarity to spread the organization so we can begin to be known among IT workers.

➤ CONTACTS

In this information age, we should unite in our solidarity network!

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➤ What Do We Do? And What are we going to do?

BİÇDA is giving free technical training.

This training will be completely free of charge unlike the training that the company gives which will cost us money. There is a sector which is already set up by companies to give technical courses but the courses are not free for workers and the workers are forced to take this training. IT employees are willing to share our knowledge, knowledge and experience gained in the workplace because we believe that all workers must stick together. We have no need or desire to exploit workers even though the company does. Our belief is that workers must stick together. We have already given the following training workshops:



Internet Programming (PHP, HTML, CSS), Logic of Object-Oriented Programming, Database Programming(SQL),Software Testing and Quality Management,This training video footage of us at <https://www.youtube.com/user/BilisimCalisanlari/videos> was shared on the internet.

In the near future, we are planning to teach Qt Programming, Photoshop, 3DS Max, Erlang, Adobe Premiere, HTML5, CSS3, .NET, C, C + + , C #, JAVA, Embedded System Design.

We plan to provide training according to the demands on other issues

BİÇDA is teaching internet and social media usage to the workers that are in struggle.

We are training workers who are in struggle how to use the internet and social media environments; promoting the use of technology in the struggle for workers.

Often we come together and share our experiences and try to solve each other's problems.

At these meetings we talk about how we can solve our problems in our workplaces and how we can have an impact on other employees. We believe that these studies are more informative than the ones the bosses propose. We also arrange movie nights to watch documentary films.



We publish bulletins.

In our bulletin we share our thoughts on working life and workers' news from various companies including live interviews with IT workers. You can find our bulletin at <http://issuu.com/bicda>

We are supporting workers' struggles in other sectors.

We are a part of the working class and we have common problems! We think that there are no differences between us and workers in other sectors. We see their resistance and share our experiences with them.

We are setting up Internationally an IT Workers Solidarity Network

The IT industry has spread all over the world, we are all connected to each other's work. We are producing together, IT workers have the same problems and similar experiences even in different countries. Precarious working conditions are all over the world. We are working under the same conditions in different regions.



If you are very tired of the stress, come to the meeting and organize Reggae night :)