

Statement of interpretation on Article 1§2: workers' right to privacy

The Committee notes that the emergence of the new technologies which have revolutionised communications have permitted employers to organise a continuous supervision of employees and in practice enable employees to work for their companies at any time and in any place, including their homes with the result that the frontier between professional and private life has been weakened. The result is an increased risk of work encroaching upon all reaches of private life, even outside working hours and outside the place of work. The Committee considers that the right to undertake work freely includes the right to be protected against interferences with the right to privacy. Therefore it is essential that the fundamental right of workers to privacy should be asserted within the employment relationship so as to ensure that this right is properly protected.