

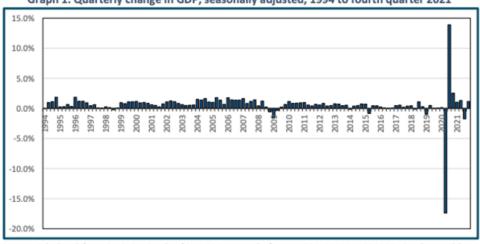


The NMW Commission has equalised all other minimums and South Africa can now be said to have a single national minimum wage, with the exception of the EPWP. The national minimum wage is now R23,19 per hour. (R12,75/hour for the EPWP) This equates to about R4,020 per month for a 40-hour week. (R2210/month for the EPWP) The national minimum wage has increased by 16% since its inception in January 2019.



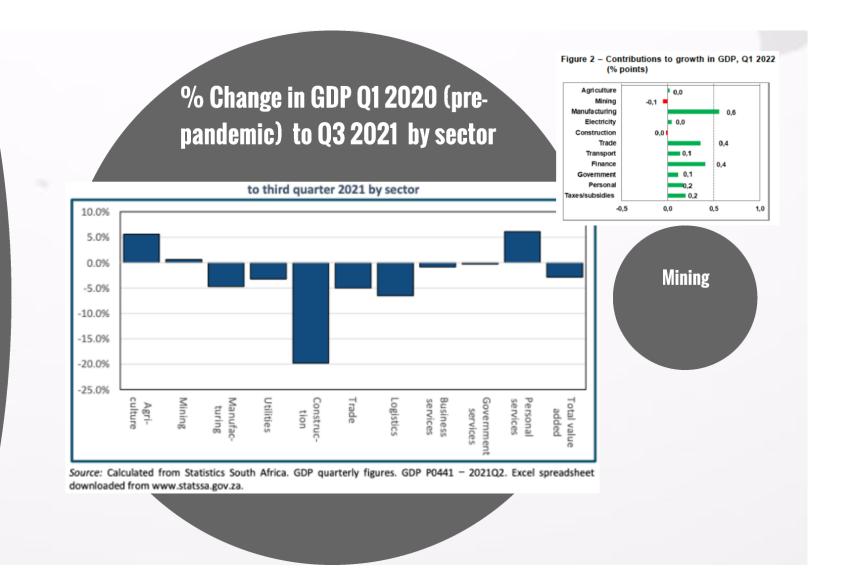
Gross Domestic Product

Graph 1. Quarterly change in GDP, seasonally adjusted, 1994 to fourth quarter 2021



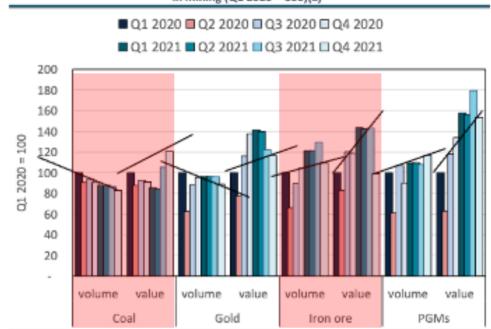
GDP%

Source: Calculated from Statistics South Africa. GDP quarterly figures. GDP P0441 - 2021Q2. Excel spreadsheet downloaded from www.statssa.gov.za.



Mining production & sales

Graph 7. Indices of seasonally adjusted quarterly production and sales (in constant rand) in mining (Q1 2020 = 100)(a)

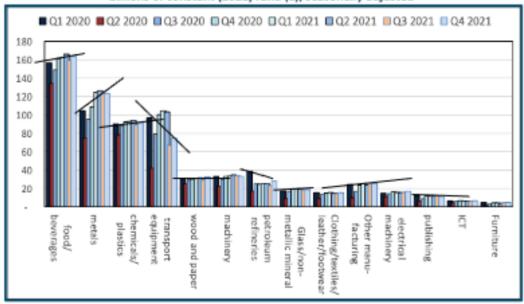


Manufacturing

ite: (a) Production volume indices rebased to first quarter of 2020; sales are deflated with CPI. Source: Calculated im Statistics South Africa. Mining Production and Sales. Excel spreadsheet downloaded from www.statssa.gov.za.

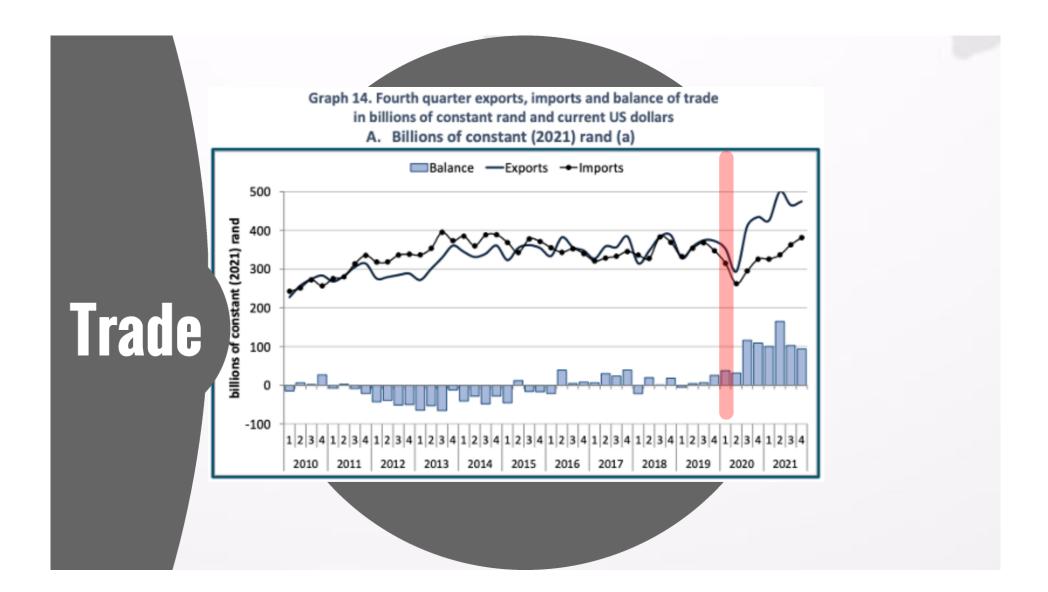
Manufacturing sales

Graph 6. Quarterly sales by manufacturing industry in billions of constant (2021) rand (a), seasonally adjusted



Trade exports & imports

Note: Reflated with CPL Source: Calculated from Statistics South Africa. Manufacturing: Production and Sales. Excel spreadsheet downloaded from www.statssa.gov.za.



The problem of unemployment

"While both the QLFS and QES report disappointing results for formal manufacturing over the past decade, they differ strongly on the details. (Graph 12) The QLFS shows a long-run 6% decline in manufacturing employment from 2010 to 2019, followed by an almost 20% crash during the pandemic. In contrast, the QES found the formal manufacturing jobs grew 2% through the 2010s, with most of the improvement toward the end of the decade. For the pandemic, it reported a 9% fall – still a depression-level fall. Again, the indices underscore the very different growth rates the two surveys give for formal manufacturing jobs in the third quarter of 2021." – TIPS, Real Economy Bulletin, 4th Quarter 2021

StatsSA

Trade Unions support Stats SA

"The 2022 budget cuts Statistics South Africa's budget for labour surveys by around 25% compared to its pre-pandemic level (measured as an average from 2014 to 2018).

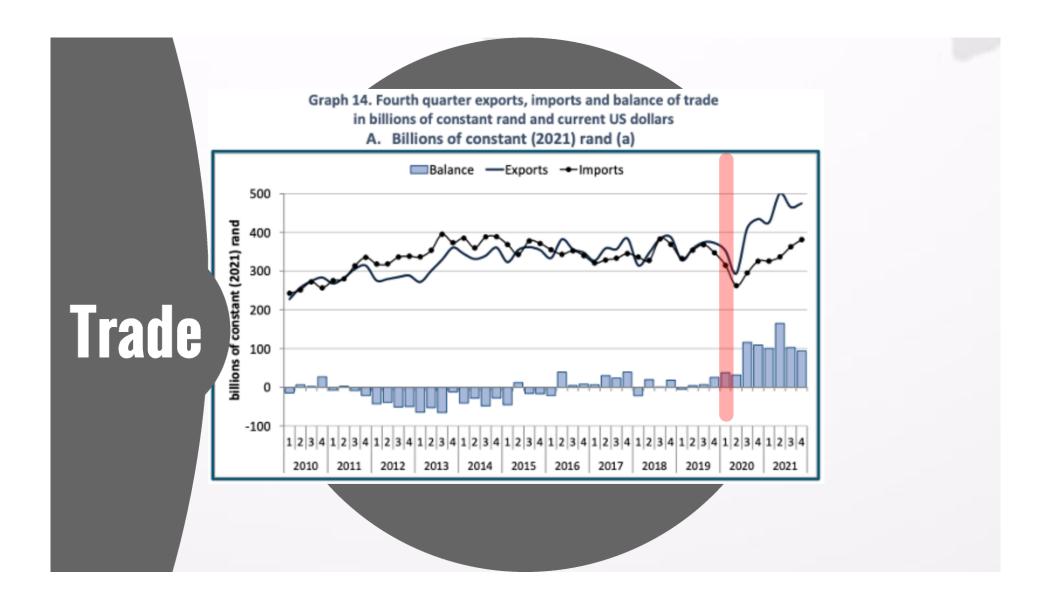
But the amounts required to maintain Statistics South Africa's critical work, and specifically the QLFS, are trivial compared to the benefits this rich resource brings by helping policymakers and economic stakeholders make better decisions."

TIPS The Real Economy Bulletin, South Africa, 4th Quarter 2022

The problem of unemployment

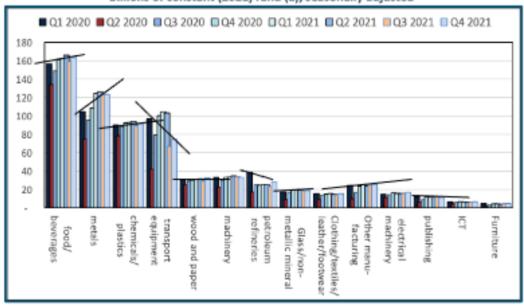
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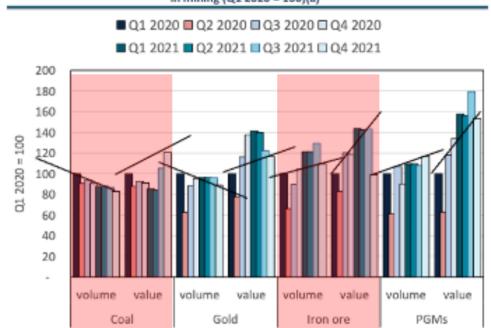


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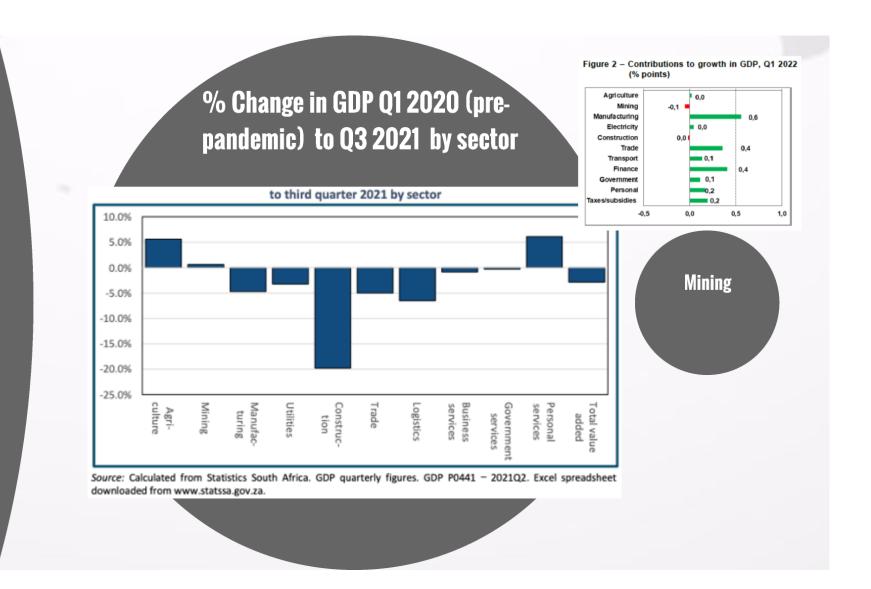
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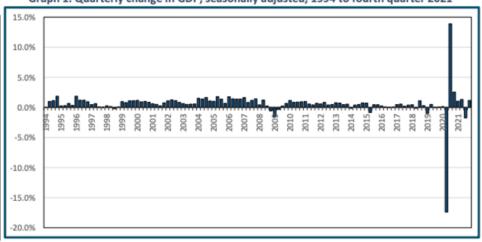
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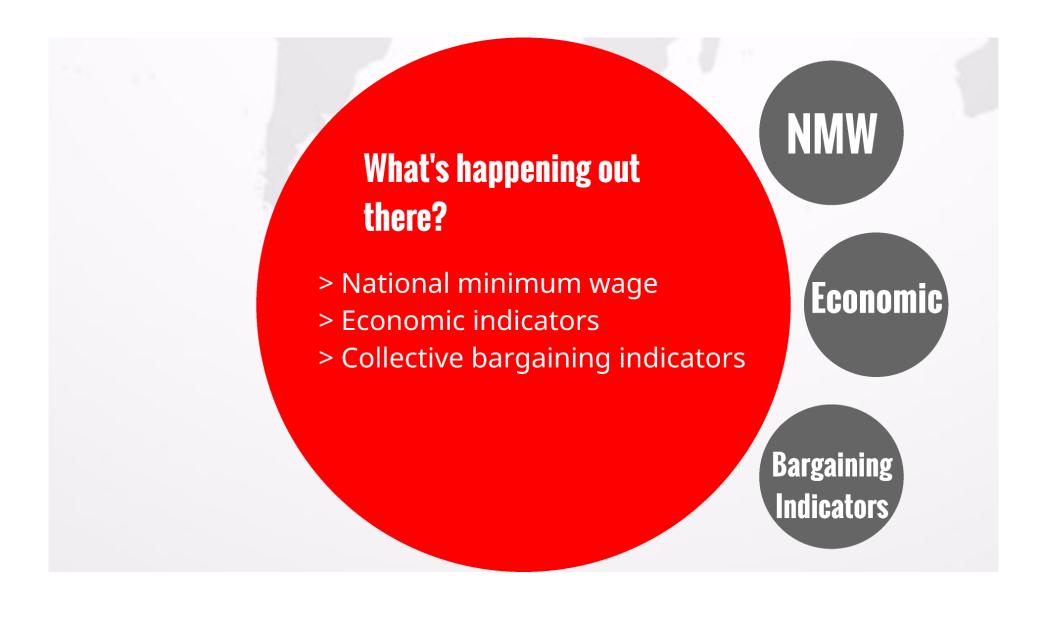
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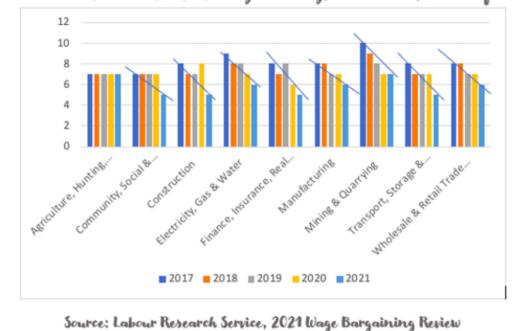
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Settlement levels

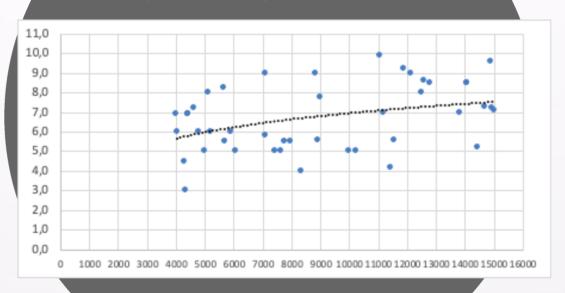




2022

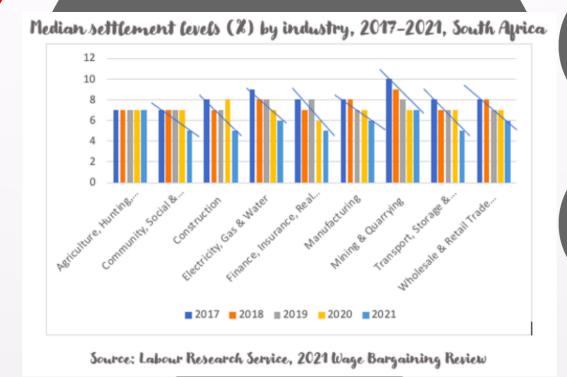
Inflation

Settlement Levels (%) & the Wage Floor (Rands), South Africa, 2022



median 6.5% and range 3%-9.9%

Settlement levels



2022

Inflation



Where are we headed?

Inflation is an entrenched benchmark for negotiators in South Africa. Average inflation has been under 6 percent for some years now and was as low as 3,3% in 2020. Inflation has been accelerating more recently and looks like it may breach 6% during the course of 2022. Inflation was at 5,9% in March 2022.

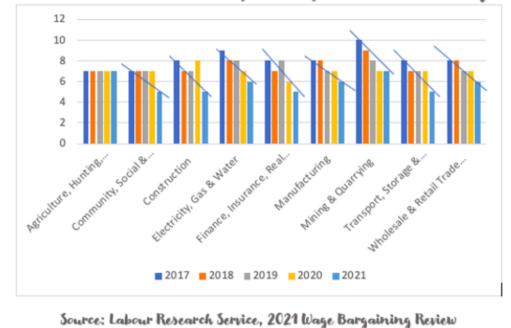
Much of the pain, specifically in the form of job losses, should be behind us now. Industries and sectors are recovering off a low base and, in many instances, they have shed a significant amount of labour.

Employer sentiment is weak and expectations set low. Public sector is role-modeling settlements below 5%.



Settlement levels

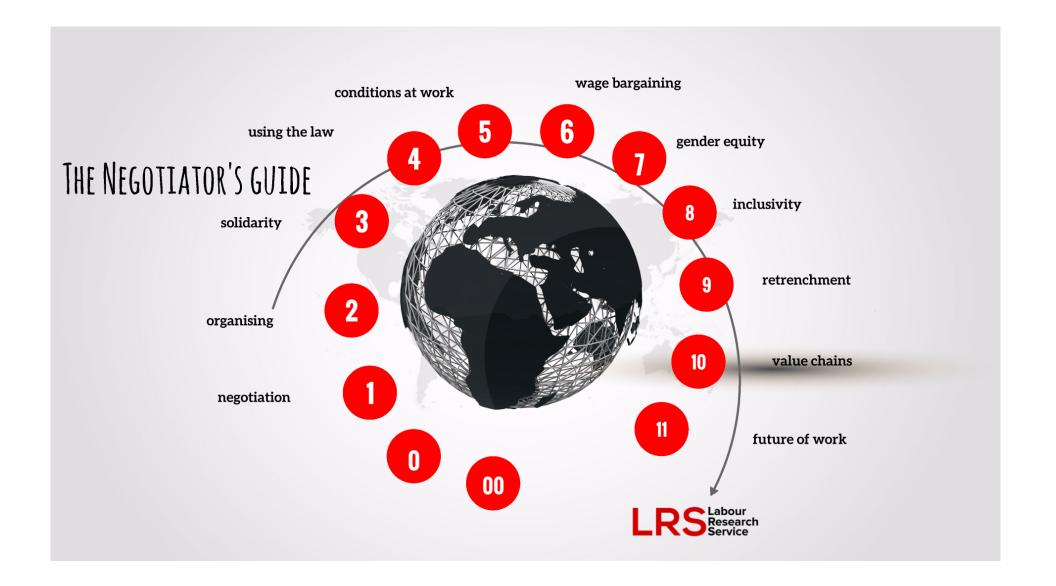




2022

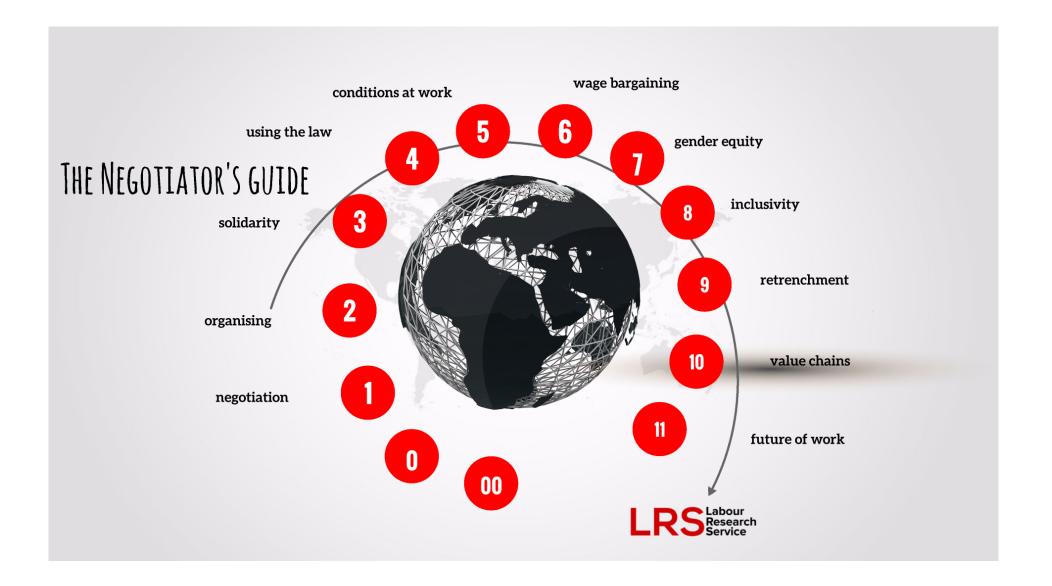
Inflation





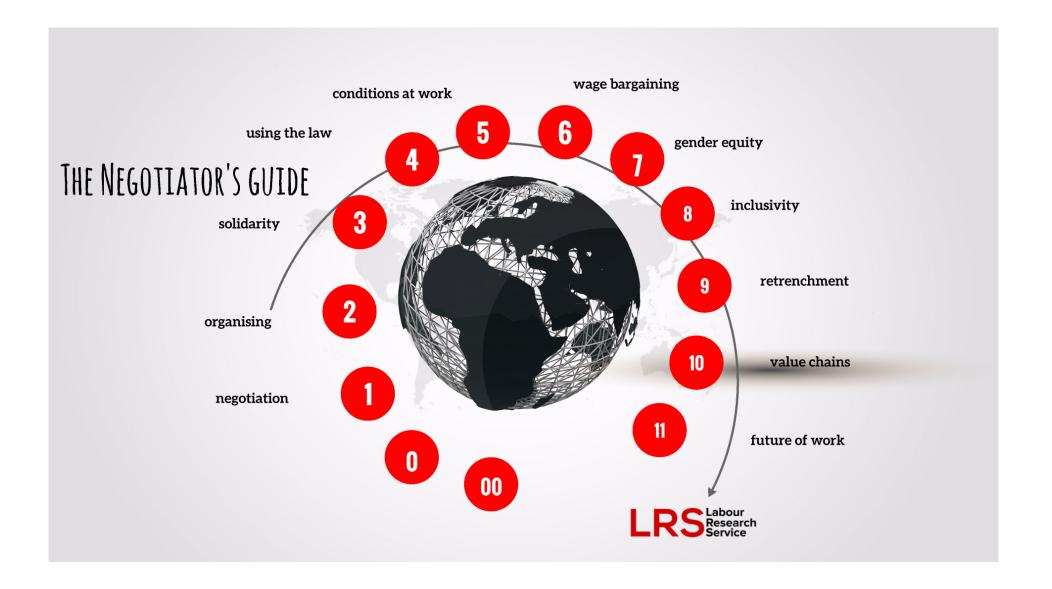
A guide for who and for what?

THIS GUIDE IS FOR WORKING CLASS LEADERS — FOR THE SHOP STEWARD, ORGANISER AND NEGOTIATOR WHO WISH TO ORGANISE AND REPRESENT WORKERS IN A WORLD OF WORK THAT HAS CHANGED PROFOUNDLY OVER TIME, AND WHICH CONTINUES TO CHANGE.



Intro to negotiations

PREPARATION, NEGOTIATION, AGREEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION. THIS CHAPTER OFFERS A SERIES OF GUIDING STEPS THAT A NEGOTIATOR CAN FOLLOW IN EACH PART OF THE PROCESS.





- the link between bargaining and organising -

Organising has little meaning if it does not find expression in bargaining, and bargaining will have limited influence if it does not consolidate and expand opportunities for organising.

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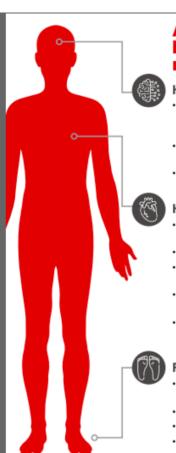


This chapter distinguishes between a worker that has been recruited and a worker that is organised,

by describing what each of these workers are thinking about, what feelings they might experience and how they might act.

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A worker that has been recruited

Head level - Thinking

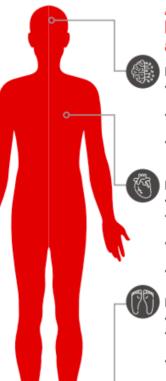
- Understands the story of the union and the rights the union has won in her workplace
- Understands what the union is able to offer her
- Understands what her rights and responsibilities are as a union member

Heart level - Feeling

- Has shared her fears, needs and aspirations with the union
- · Feels valued as a person and worker
- Feels she has been giving the opportunity to exercise choice
- Feels that she will be able to learn and grow
- Feels that she is joining a collective that she can actively participate in and that will protect her

Feet level - Doing

- Is willing to participate in democratic processes
- · Is willing to articulate her needs
- · Is willing to support fellow workers
- Is willing to contribute financially to sustain the union



A worker that has been organised into a trade union

Head level - Thinking

- Know her rights and the responsibilities of the employer
- Knows the contents of the most recent collective agreement
- Knows the power and responsibility of the trade union

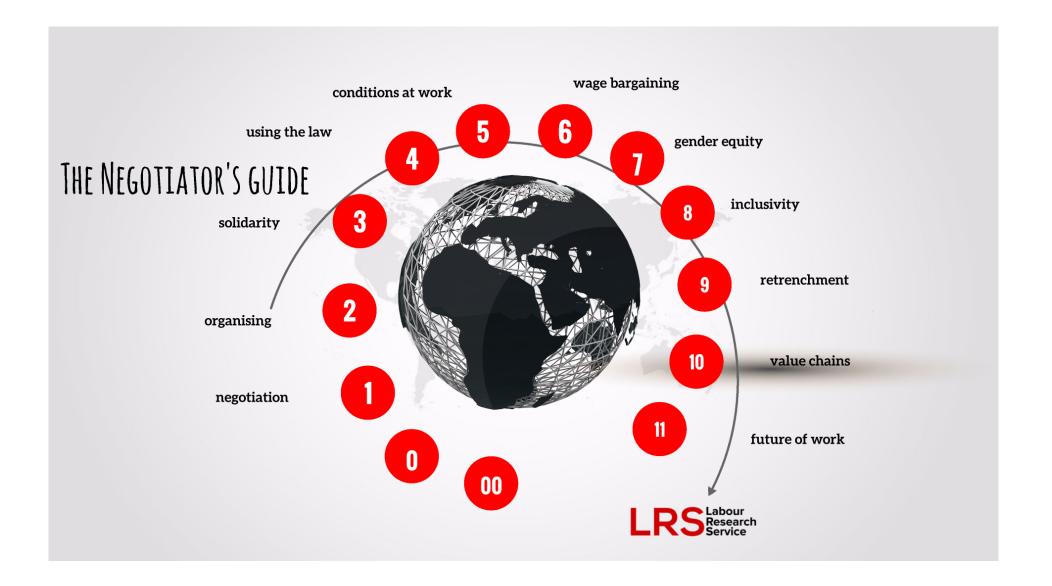
Heart level - Feeling

- · Feels a sense of belonging
- Feels protected from being exploited by the employer
- Feels confident to engage in discussion
- · Feels part of a collective voice

Feet level - Doing

- · Participates in union activities
- Initiates discussions when necessary with the union
- Participates in the collecting of demands and the organising and mobilising around collective bargaining

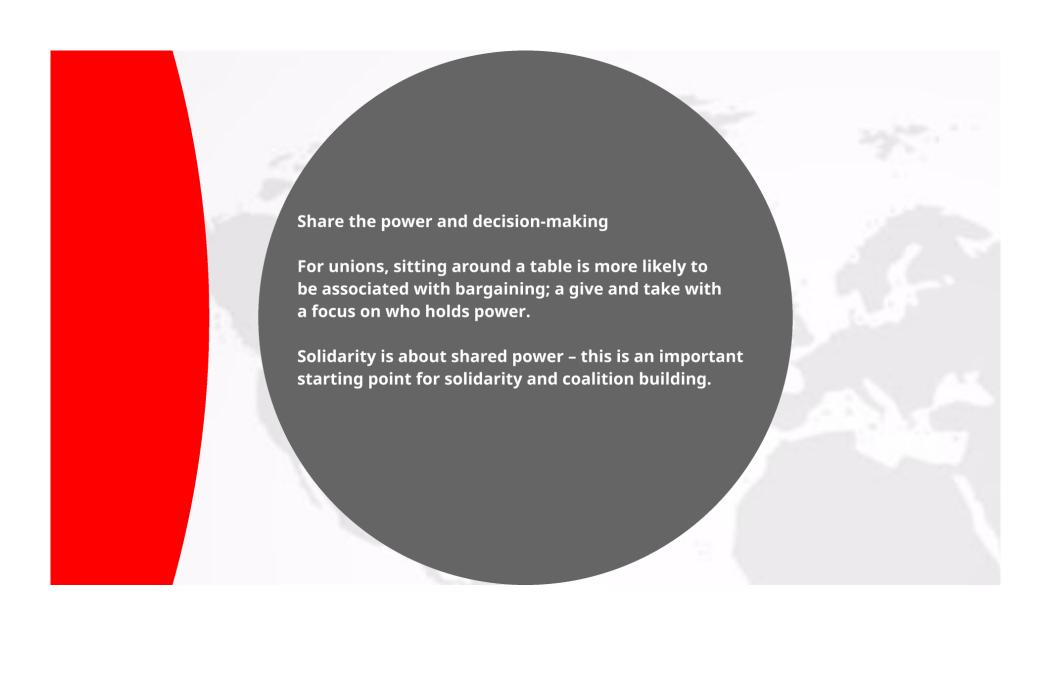




Solidarity & Coalitions

LOOKS AT BUILDING ALLIANCES THAT CAN FURTHER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BY DESCRIBING EIGHT LEADING IDEAS FOR BUILDING SOLIDARITY IN AND THROUGH COALITION BUILDING.

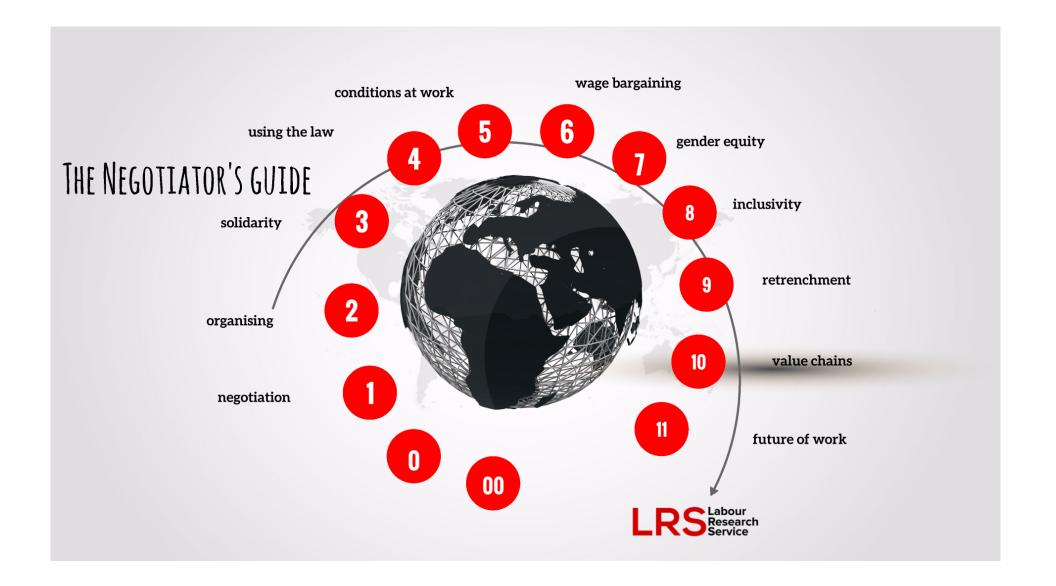
sharing power



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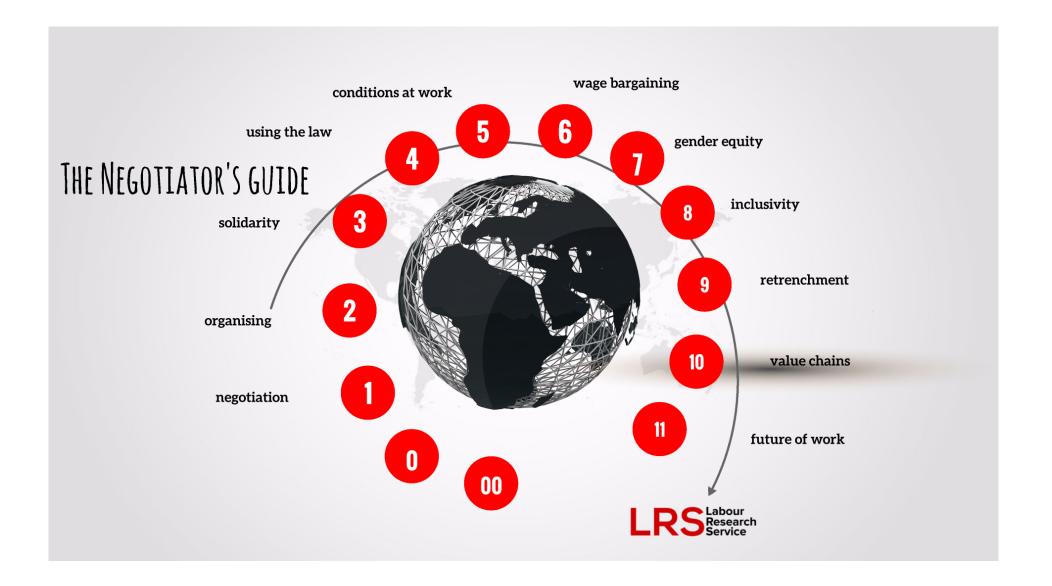
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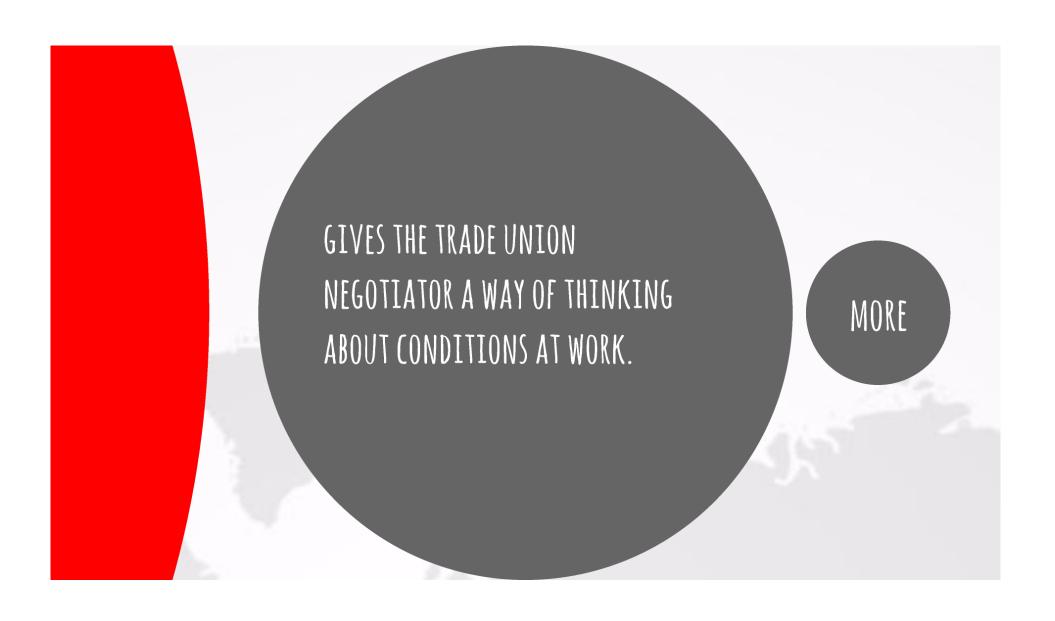




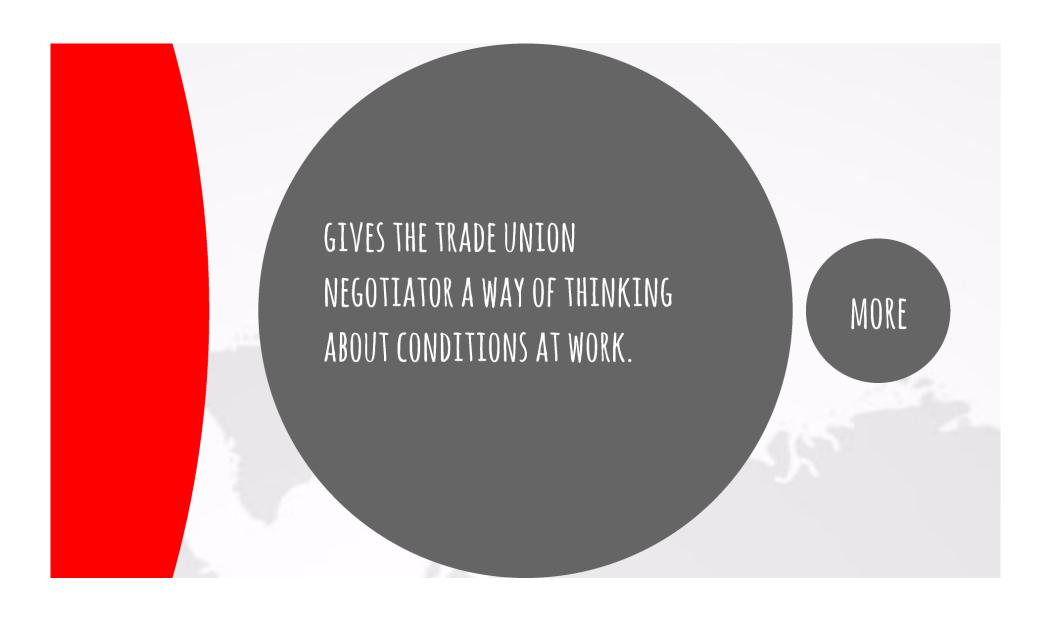




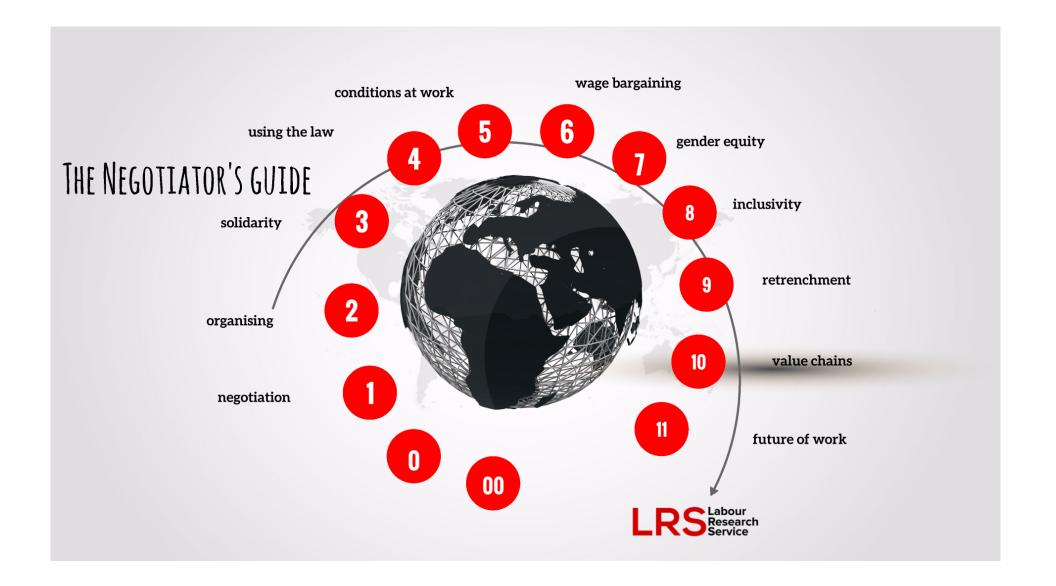












Introduction to wage bargaining

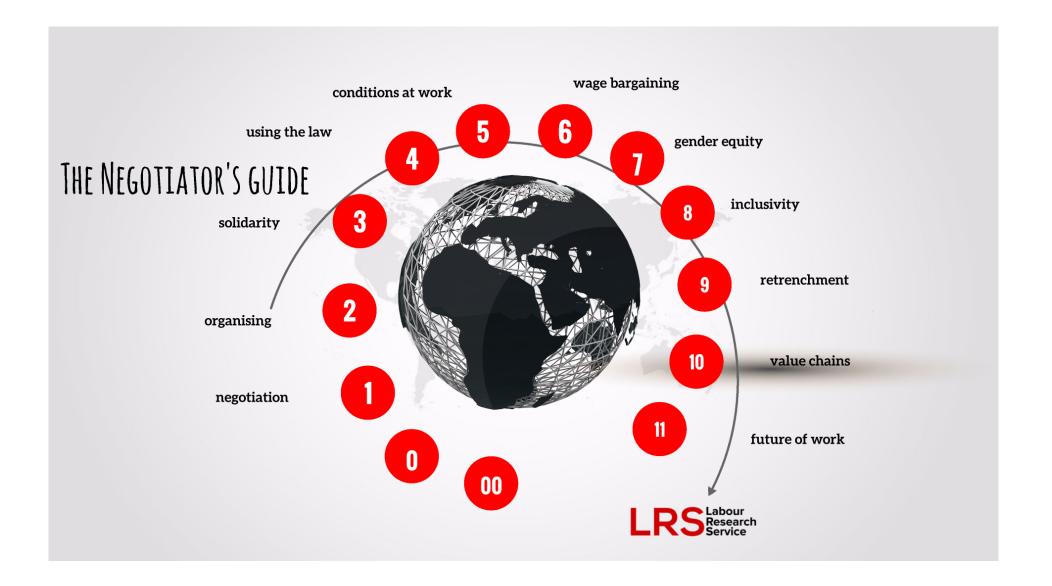
provides a set of steps for building a wage demand and it outlines different approaches to dealing with inflation.

It also includes simple formulas which the negotiator can use to calculate percentages and money amounts, and communicate these to workers.

Introduction to wage bargaining

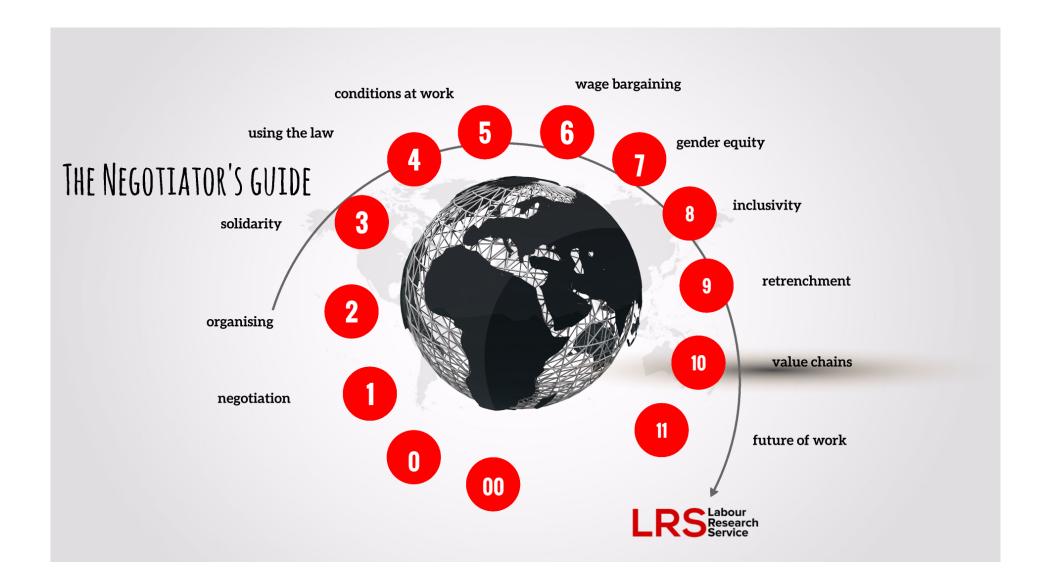
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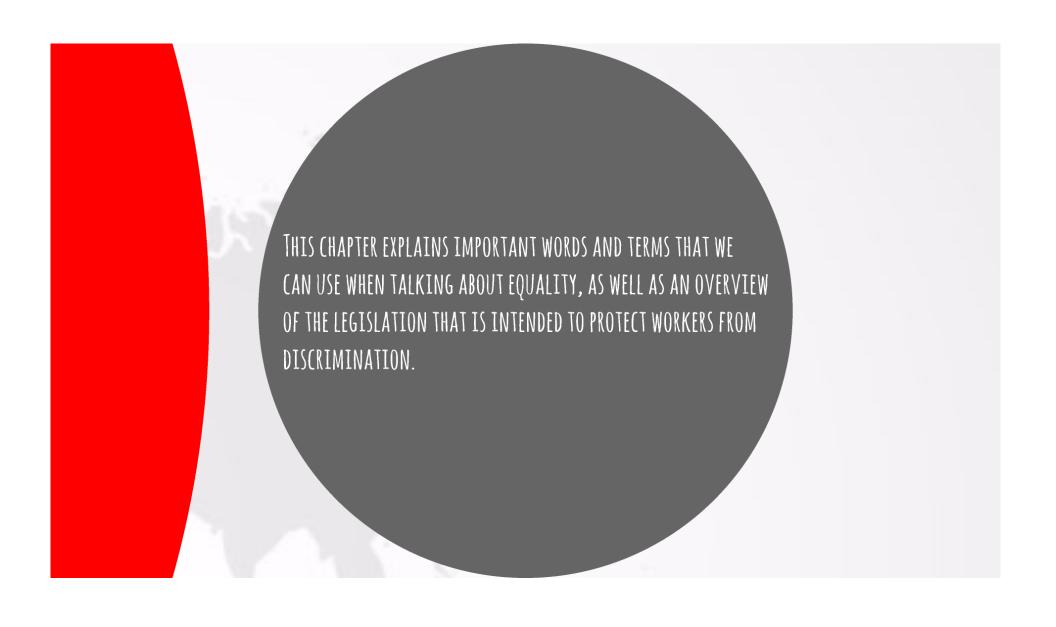


Bargaining for gender equity

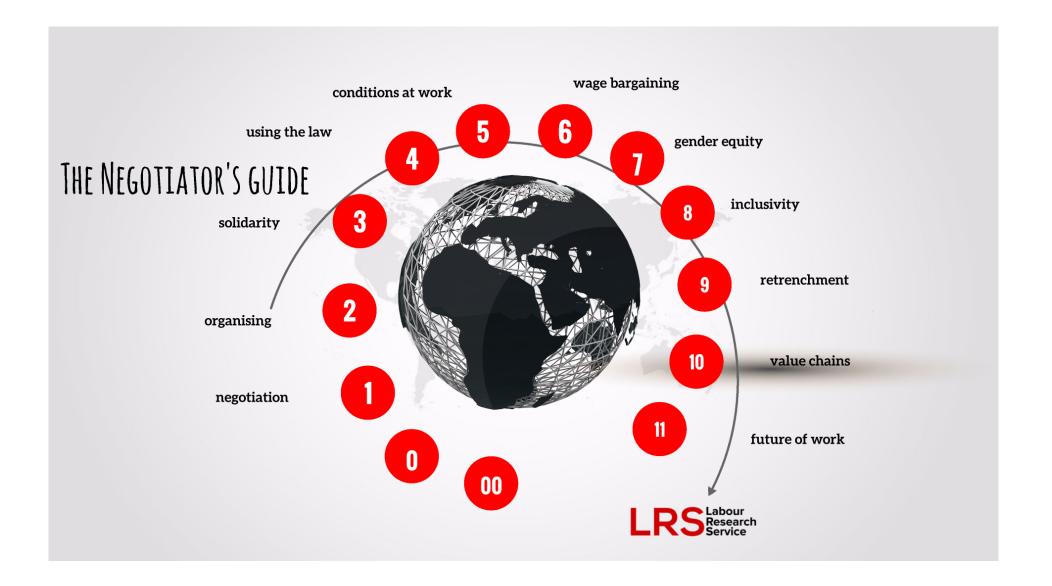
THE STRUGGLE FOR GENDER EQUITY IS NOT ONLY ABOUT TREATING MEN AND WOMEN EQUALLY, BUT ALSO INVOLVES TREATING THE GENDERS DIFFERENTLY WHEN NECESSARY. THIS CHAPTER EXPLAINS IMPORTANT TERMS TO KNOW, DESCRIBES SPECIFIC BARGAINING DEMANDS FOR GENDER EQUITY AND PROVIDES THE NEGOTIATOR WITH A GUIDE TO THE BARGAINING PROCESS.



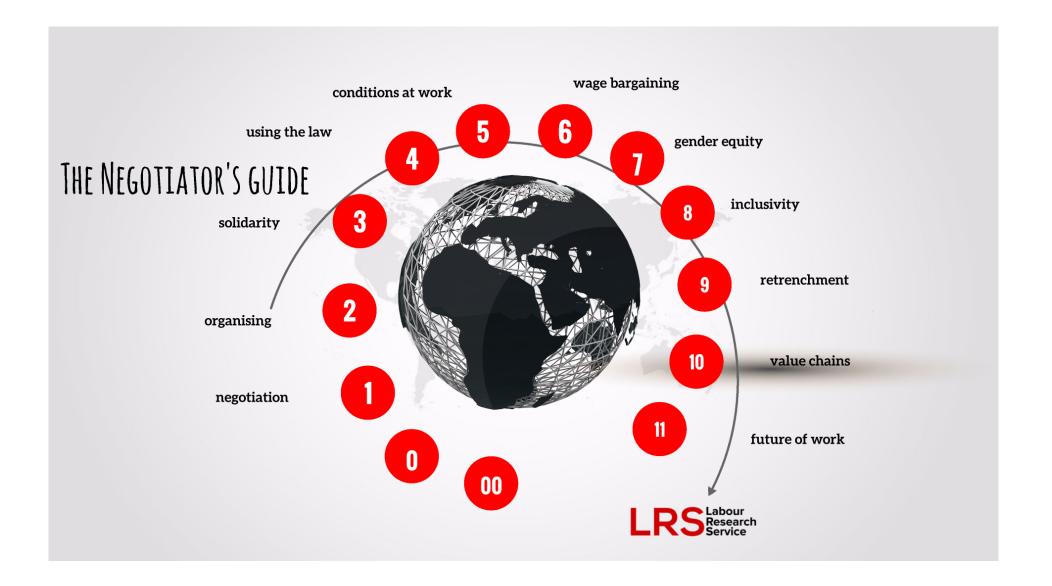








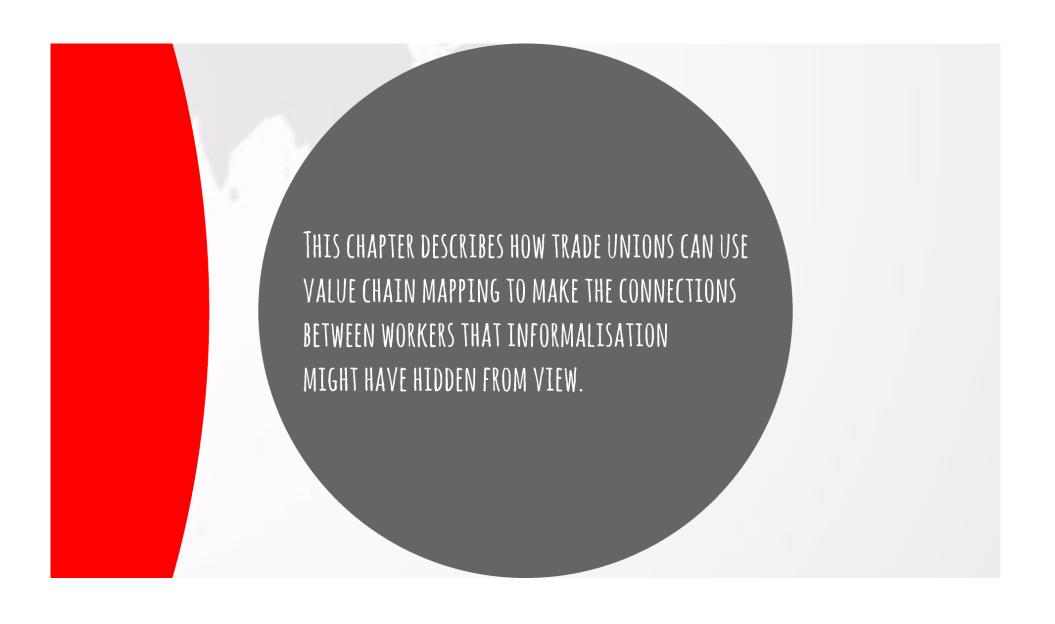




Trade unions negotiating in value chains

introduces the negotiator to the concept of value chains and explains that almost all negotiations take place within a part of a larger value chain.





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