# THE WORKERS' COOPERATIVES BEFORE A NEW CROSSING: THE FUTURE OF EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK

Manuel García Jiménez (University of Cordoba, Spain)

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The paper aims to place workers'
Cooperatives in front of the challenges that
the future of employment and decent work
present for the work in general within the
Objectives of the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development.

### The challenges ...

- a general situation of precarious work, which affects all countries, regardless of their level of development and employment,
- and the parallel deterioration of the environment and global warming as a result of human action.

Work in the future must be a work with rights and social protection and whose productive action does not cause irreversible damage to the planet.

Workers' cooperatives, from their beginnings, have been conceived as alternative formulas to dependent and subordinated work, and cooperativism in general has always tried to present itself as an alternative model of responsible production and consumption.

Recovery of the classics: Saint Simon, Owen, Fourier, S. Mill, ...

By their very nature, cooperatives admit the incorporation of each and every one of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

In the paper we have related the Sustainable Development Goals to the concept of cooperative and its values and principles (ACI), which allows us to place cooperatives, and not only from workers, as privileged instruments for their implementation, but also in a democratic and solidary manner.

## Decent work for all (objective 8)

This objective implies the extension of labor rights and social protection to all workers, overcoming the classic limits of salaried work.

In the PAPER we defend workers condition for THE cooperative members and, therefore, the subjection and respect to said rights in the performance of their productive activities.

This and the rest of the objectives can be framed in the principles and values of the Cooperativism that conform their identity

"A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise."

It presents the cooperative as a productive organization at the service of the needs of the people, and an instrument at the service of the Goals:

- 1: No Poverty.
- 2: Zero Hunger.
- 8. Decent work (already commented).

"Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others".

Values, which reinforce the elements contained in the concept and which, in turn, integrate the objectives of:

- 3: Good Health and Well-Being.
- 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.
- 12: Responsible Production and Consumption.

Likewise, the Cooperative Principles contain, from their origins, the seeds of such Objectives, in particular, in a practically express way:

Voluntary and Open Membership. Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

- 5. Igualdad de género.
- 10. Reducción de desigualdades.

Education, Training, and Information. Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

4: Quality Education.

Cooperation among Cooperatives. Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

17: Partnerships for the Goals.

Concern for Community. Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

- 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.
- 7: Affordable and Clean Energy.
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.
- 13: Climate Action.
- 14: Life Below Water.
- 15: Life On Land.

### Cooperative Work 2030

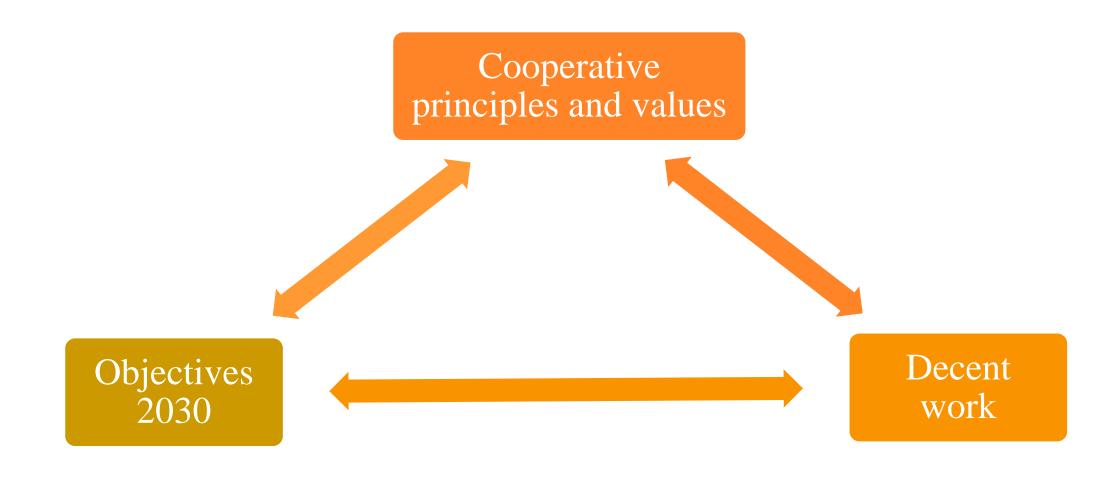
The implementation of the 2030 objectives should not require great efforts, one should only deepen one's own nature, as an opportunity

### COOPERATIVE IDENTITY

- Values
- Principles

Incrusting the objectives of Sustainable Development

# Cooperative work has to be a different job



### "The Chart of the Self-managing Worker".

In this regard, we want to present in this scientific meeting the proposal, currently being developed by researchers in the Latin American area, and open to debate, "The Chart of the Self-managed Worker".

Where they are intended to delimit:

- The concept of a self-managed company;
- The essential features of self-managed work;
- The legal type;
- And the international rights recognized to people regardless of their employment status, delimited by the UDHR and the ICESCR (International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

It wants to involve international representative and scientific organizations in the debate and that, at the time, its basic elements can be implemented through legislation.