

# Hands on Stamps: Austria 1969—50th Anniversary of the International Labour Organization

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The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a United Nations agency dealing with labor affairs. Its particular interests are labor standards and decent work for all.<sup>1</sup> The ILO was founded in 1919 as a part of the Treaty of Versailles after the World War I with the concept that universal and lasting peace can be accomplished only if it is based on social justice. The importance of social justice was seen against of a background of exploitation of workers in the industrial nations of that time.<sup>2</sup> The driving forces for the ILO's establishment were security, humanitarian, political, and economic considerations.<sup>2</sup>

In 1969, on the 50th anniversary of its foundation, the ILO received the Nobel Peace Prize for improving peace among classes, pursuing justice for workers, and providing technical assistance to developing nations.<sup>1</sup> Austria commemorated the occasion by issuing a stamp (Fig. 1).

## REFERENCES

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**FIGURE 1:** Two hands with a wrench and United Nations emblem. Country: Austria. Scott Catalogue # 844. Day of issue: August 22, 1969. Value: 2 Austrian schillings.