

**International Labor Rights Forum's Spring Forum**  
**May 1, 2012 ~ May Day – International Workers' Rights Day**  
**At Communications Workers of America, 501 Third Street, NW, Washington, DC**  
**Register at [laborrights.org/springforum](http://laborrights.org/springforum)**

## ***Democracy and an Economy for All: Protests and Strategies for Change***

2011 gave us a political moment for change and ILRF's Spring Forum aims to build on and contribute to that momentum. From Wisconsin to Tunisia, Egypt to Wall Street, 2011 was the year of the protester; the year that we, the 99%, made our collective voice heard. Advocates of workers' rights everywhere have embraced this movement and the calls for meaningful democratic participation and a global economy that works for everyone. But how can we sustain the momentum? What links can we foster between sister campaigns across the globe? ILRF's Spring Forum will bring together worker rights advocates from around the world and across the US to share stories and strategies.

### **1:30 pm: Registration and Coffee**

### **2:00 pm: Opening Plenary**

How trade unions and social movements help democracy work for the 99%

- Judy Gearhart, Executive Director, International Labor Rights Forum
- Sarita Gupta, Executive Director, Jobs with Justice
- Bill Fletcher, Jr., Director of Field Services, American Federation of Government Employees
- Larry Cohen, President, Communications Workers of America

### **2:30 pm: Broken Democracy: the Global Attack on Collective Bargaining Rights:**

An examination of workers' struggles; collective bargaining rights and extreme employer tactics.

- Tunisian Spring: How Labor Translated Protest into Change: Lisa McGowan, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Program, Solidarity Center
- US Public Sector and Collective Bargaining Rights: American Federation of Teachers
- Illegal Bargaining: Gerry Rivera, President, Philippine Airlines Employees Association (PALEA)
- Moderator: Ken Grossinger, Principal, Democracy Partners

### **4:00 pm: Just Jobs: Innovative Strategies for Protecting Vulnerable Workers:**

Innovative initiatives to empower and support workers in precarious work situations.

- Women Farm Workers in the Honduran Melons Industry: Iris Munguia, Secretary General, Coordinating Body of Latin-American Banana and Agro-Industrial Workers (COLSIBA)
- Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports: Independent Contractors Strike for Power in Seattle: Nick Weiner, National Coordinator of the Ports Campaign, Change to Win & Teamsters
- Chinese Migrant Workers: How Labor Law Clinics Are Helping Workers: Jeff Becker, China Program Director, International Labor Rights Forum
- The Guest Workers Alliance and New Strategies for Supporting Mobile Workers: Saket Soni, Executive Director, National Guest Workers Alliance
- Moderator and Conclusion, John Cavanagh, Executive Director, Institute for Policy Studies

### **5:30 – 7:30: Cocktail and Reception**

With all the panelists and also with two longtime ILRF allies: Kalpona Akter, Executive Director, BCWS, Bangladesh; and Edwin B. Cisco, Secretary General, Firestone Agricultural Workers Union of Liberia (FAWUL), Liberia

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All sponsorships confirmed by April 23<sup>rd</sup> will be listed in the ILRF's Spring Forum program booklet. All ads received by May 15 will be included in *Freedom at Work 2012: Democracy and an Economy for All*, which ILRF will publish in June 2012 featuring case-studies discussed at the Spring Forum.

E-mail your ad as 300dpi black & white .jpg or .png to [Jackie@ilrf.org](mailto:Jackie@ilrf.org)  
We can design an ad for your organization for an additional \$50 fee.

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