Pakistan: National and International Legal Framework –OSH, Human Rights and Labor Laws

Constitution of Pakistan

• Supreme legal framework ensuring fundamental rights and protections

2. National Laws

A. Human Rights

- Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2010 / 2022
- Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act, 1992
- Pakistan Penal Code (Relevant Sections) Act, 1860
- Child Labor (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 2016
- Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018

B. Labor Laws

- Industrial Relations Act, 2012
- Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- Minimum Wages Ordinance, 1961
- Shops and Establishment Ordinance, 1969
- Employees' Old Age Benefits Act, 1976
- Employees' Social Security Ordinance, 1965
- Maternity Benefits Ordinance, 1958

C. Occupational Safety & Health (OSH)

- Factories Act, 1934
- Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
- Factories (Amendment) Acts OSH Provisions
- Provincial OSH Rules & Regulations

3. Provincial Laws (Post 18th Amendment)

• Punjab

- o Punjab Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2019
- o Punjab Minimum Wages Act, 2019
- o Punjab Prohibition of Child Labor at Brick Kilns Act, 2016
- o Punjab Social Security (Amendments)

Sindh

- o Sindh Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2017
- o Sindh Employees Social Security Act, 2016
- o Sindh Factories Act (Amendments, 2015)
- o Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act, 2017
- o Sindh Women Agricultural Workers Act, 2019

• Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)

- o KP Factories Act 2013 (Amendments)
- o KP Mines Safety & Welfare Regulations 2016
- o KP Prohibition of Child Labor Act, 2015
- o KP Social Security (Amendments) 2013

Balochistan

- o Balochistan Factories (Amendment) Act
- o Balochistan Prohibition of Employment of Children Act, 2021
- o Balochistan Social Security (Amendments) 2015

4. International Conventions Ratified by Pakistan

A. Human Rights (UN Treaties)

- ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ICESCR International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- CRC Convention on the Rights of the Child

- CAT Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- CERD Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- CRC-OP-AC Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict
- CRC-OP-SC Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
- CRPD Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

B. Labor Rights & OSH (ILO Conventions)

Fundamental Labor Rights

- C087 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize
- C098 Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining
- C100 Equal Remuneration
- C111 Discrimination (Employment & Occupation)

Child Labor and Forced Labor

- C029 Forced Labor
- C105 Abolition of Forced Labor
- C138 Minimum Age
- C182 Worst Forms of Child Labor

OSH & Labor Inspection

- C081 Labor Inspection Convention
- C144 Tripartite Consultation (International Labor Standards) Convention