

2022 Black Workers' Conference Attendees Briefing

May 2022

Introduction

Welcome to this year's conference, which is being held online. We have a packed agenda this year which includes debates and motion voting, panel sessions and an online fringe programme.

Chair's role -

The conference chair is responsible for keeping to the agenda of the conference. This includes ensuring delegates do not speak over the time limit. The chair has authority to take action in response to any complaint received or of their own initiative in respect of any delegate whose behaviour is deemed to be inappropriate on the conference floor. This authority includes issuing the delegate with an informal warning, preventing them from speaking in any debate or motion, excluding a delegate from all or part of the conference, or otherwise expulsion from conference. The exercise of the chair's authority is separate from any decision for any further action.

Conference sessions

Conference begins at 2pm on Friday 6 May and closes at 5.30pm

The Saturday sessions are from 9.30am to 12.45pm and 2.00pm to 5.30pm.

The Sunday sessions are from 9.15am to 1pm

Panel debates and workshops

The Following Webinars and Workshops will take place at Conference:

Friday 6 May

2.10pm There will be a Q and A session with the General Secretary and President on Friday Afternoon

4pm An International Rally will be held on Friday Afternoon at

Saturday 7 May

2.10pm A panel debate on Immigration Asylum and the Hostile environment

A presentation of work from the Anti racism Taskforce and some workshops on a proposed Anti racism and Trade Union Charter

4pm A Webinar on the Future of organising in conjunction with gal-dem

Sunday 8 May

2pm A workshop on Getting your Workplace Strike Ready organised with the Ella Baker School of organising

The panel will be chaired by Gloria Mills and the speakers are

Esther Lynch Deputy General Secretary of the ETUC

Chidi King

The Panel debate will be held during Saturday morning and discuss The Impact of the 1968 Race Relations Act. The panel will be chaired by Dr Omar Khan and the panellists are:

Suresh Grover (The Monitoring Group)

Gloria Mills (TUC Race Relations Committee)

Ilyas Nagdee (NUS Black Students Officer)

Ayeisha Thomas-Smith (KIN Network)

Four workshops will take place on Saturday afternoon and focus on mobilising Black workers and the community. They will cover the following areas:

Black Workers, Automation and Artificial intelligence

Black Women and sexual harassment

Building capacity and Organizing Black Workers Using social media

What next for race relations legislation

Timetable

Friday 6 May

This year to work with an online format that allows for debate and voting but keeping in mind that online sessions can be very intense, we have taken a different approach to some aspects of conference.

2.00pm	Conference Opens
2.05pm	Chairs Address
2.10pm	Question and Answer with Frances O'Grady (TUC General Secretary and Sue Ferns (TUC President).
2.30pm	Plenary
4.00pm	International rally webinar
5.30pm	Conference Adjourns

If you would like to submit questions to the panel, please email Wilf Sullivan on wsullivan@tuc.org.uk

14:05 – 16:30 Conference Session Day One (to finish no later than 5pm)

Saturday 7 May

9.30 am	Conference Starts - Plenary
11.00am	Panel Debate: Immigration, Asylum, and the Hostile Environment
12.00 noon	Plenary
12.45pm – 1pm	Lunch

2.10pm	Anti-racism Taskforce Presentations and discussion
4. 00pm	Future of Organising Event (open)
5.30pm	Conference adjourns
6.00pm	Art Exhibition Launch Event (separate zoom event will follow)

If you would like to submit questions to the panel, please email Wilf Sullivan on wsullivan@tuc.org.uk

Sunday 8 May

9.30am -1pm	Conference Starts Plenary
2.00-3.30pm	Future of Black Workers Organising Event (open)

Order of Business

This order of business indicates the committee's attitude to each motion:

S = Support – In order to allow more time for delegates the committee usually (but not always) waive their right to speak in a debate on a motion or amendment they support.

LTC = Leave to conference – On matters where the arguments are finely balanced the committee may decline to make a recommendation but will give an explanation from the Chair.

SR = Support with Reservations – If necessary, a committee member will explain to Conference any reservations they may have on a motion or amendment they otherwise support. The union concerned is notified in advance of the committee's reservations.

R/O = Remit/Oppose – The committee may seek remission of a motion before conference. If the union will not agree to remit the motion a committee member will speak in opposition to it.

O = Oppose – A committee member will speak on any motion or amendment opposed by the committee.

Speaking in motion debates

To facilitate the business of conference online this year and ensure we can give delegates comfort breaks and time away from screens, we have asked unions to inform us of their movers, seconders, supporters, opposers and any other speakers to motions in advance of the conference. If time allows, we will take speakers from the floor, but we cannot guarantee this, and it will be at the chair's discretion based on how we are progressing with conference business.

Motion vote and Committee election

Voting on motions to the Black workers' conference will be taken online via our delegate platform.

Each union will cast a single vote for both the motion to Congress and committee election, and this vote will be weighted according to the union's delegate entitlement.

Order of business

Friday 6 May	
	10 min break
	Chairs address -Carol Sewell
Motion 1	Cost of Living
Motion 2	Ethnicity Pay Gap
Motion 3	The impact of Covid-19 and further precarisation
Motion 4	Mental health provisions in the public sector
Motion 5	Organising for racial justice
	20-minute break
Motion 6	Anti-Racism Taskforce
Motion 7	Anti-Racism Taskforce Priorities
	Report to Black Workers' Conference
No later than 5.30pm	Chair closes first day
Saturday 7 May	
9:30 – 10:15	
	5-minute comfort break
	Presidents Address
Motion 8	TUC Anti-Racism Taskforce Legacy
Motion 9	Eradicating Racism in the workplace
Amendment	Prospect
Motion 10	Microaggressions and bullying – stop the hate

Motion 11	Making employers pay – reparations for racism
Motion 12	A UK asylum system based on liberty and justice
Motion 13	Asylum Seekers
Amendment	UNISON
	Lunchbreak 12:15 to 13:30 (1 hr and 15mins)
	Afternoon session starts at 13:30
Motion 14	Nationality & Borders Bill
Motion 15	Challenging the borders and nationality bill
Motion 16	The Nationality and Borders Bill
Amendment	RMT
17:30	Chair closes day 2
9:30	Chair Opens Final Day
Motion 17	Migrant Workers' Rights
Amendment	RCM
Motion 18	Decolonise midwifery education, theory and practice by increasing colour awareness among midwives
Motion 19	Challenging the multiplier effects of racism and poverty in education
Motion 20	Being Black in the music industry
	Break 15 mins
Motion 21	Reparations for Afrikan Enslavement

Ballot

The ballot for elections to the Race Relations committee will open at 2pm on Friday 6 May and end after conference on Saturday 10 May. An announcement will be made on Sunday 8 May before Conference closes. Voting will be weighted, and it will be the responsibility of your union delegation leader to submit the vote on behalf of your delegation.

Motion to Congress

The vote on which motion to submit to TUC Congress 2022 from the Black Workers conference will open from the beginning of the Conference sessions on Sunday morning once the chair has opened conference and close once the last motion has been voted on.

An announcement will be made on Sunday 8 May before conference closes. Voting will be

weighted, and it will be the responsibility of your union delegation leader to submit the vote on behalf of your delegation.

Code of conduct for all participants – please ensure you always follow

The TUC is committed to organising activities at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful, and safe environment. The TUC has zero tolerance for any type of harassment, including sexual harassment. Aggressive, offensive, intimidatory, disrespectful or unacceptable behaviour or comments will not be tolerated. This supports the commitment set out in the TUC's rules to promote equality for all and to eliminate all forms of harassment, including sexual harassment, prejudice, and unfair discrimination. This policy applies to all aspects of communication at or in connection with an event, including postings on social media. If you have any concerns about behaviour that you want to raise, then please contact us by email: tucevents@tuc.org.uk

TUC contacts

If you have questions or queries in relation to any aspect of the 2022 TUC Black Workers' Conference, please email: blackworkersconference@tuc.org.uk