



# Occupational Health and Safety

Week 2

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# National Occupational Health Safety Institutions and Organizations

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- The Ministry of Labor and Social Security is the main institution responsible for regulating and managing business life.
- The International Labor Organization (ILO) states that a “tripartite approach” is needed:
- The Ministry undertakes the task of regulating and managing the relations between the two main actors of working life, the worker and the employer.
- Apart from several other ministries and government agencies, there are a number of non-governmental organizations involved in the management of occupational health and safety issues in the country.

# Ministry of Labor and Social Security

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- The duty of the Ministry is defined as "regulating and supervising working life, ensuring labor peace, taking measures to increase employment and extend social security as well as contributing to the improvement of social welfare, and protecting the rights and interests of our citizens working abroad."
- The Ministry has four main service units:
  - General Directorate of Labour
  - General Directorate of Foreign Relations and Services for Workers Abroad
  - General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety
  - General Directorate of European Union and Financial Support

# Ministry of Labor and Social Security

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- The other two agencies that are most closely related to occupational health and safety are the Labor Inspection Board (organized under “Consultancy and Inspection Units”) and the Social Security Institution (organized under the title “Related Institutions” of the Ministry).
- As of 2014, a total of 2473 personnel were working within the ministry, and the annual budget of the ministry was 32,805,482,580 TL.

# The Directorate General of Labour

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- This directorate was founded in 1967. The main duties of this General Directorate are to regulate the relations between the employers and workers and to reach an agreement between the two parties.
- Members of the General Directorate are involved in the legislation preparation procedure and Collective Bargaining Meetings.
- As of 2014, a total of 269 personnel were working within the General Directorate, and the annual budget of the General Directorate was 14.450.081 TL.

# The General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety:

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- General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety was established in 1945 as "Worker Safety and Health Unit"; and was later restructured as a General Directorate.
- As of the end of June 2015, a total of 421 personnel including 202 OHS specialists and assistant specialists, 7 physicians, and 58 technical staff were working within the General Directorate.
- The 2014 annual budget of the General Directorate was 17,395,588 TL.



# Main duties of the General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety:

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- Defining the national policies on OHS and preparing programs.
- Ensuring the implementation of the legislation on occupational health and safety issues and making legislation work.
- Doing the standard works such as preparing and improving the norms; measuring, evaluation, technical control, training, consultancy, conducting the activities such as specialization, and authorizing the organizations that conduct these kinds of activities.
- Making the market surveillance and inspection of personal protective equipment.

# Main duties of the General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety:

- Putting occupational health and safety measures into practice to prevent work accidents and occupational diseases.
- There are 6 departments and an institute working under the three deputy general managers of the Department of Occupational Safety that makes it possible to conduct these duties. These are:
  - Department of Occupational Safety
  - Department of Market Surveillance and Inspection
  - Department of Policy and Strategy
  - Department of Authorization
  - Department of Training, Promotion, and Organization
  - Department of Administrative Services
  - The Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute



# The Labor Inspection Board:

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- Labor inspection, which contributes to the prevention of workplace hazards and preserving the health of the workers, and ensures that legislation is followed is one of the basic main duties and responsibilities of the Ministry.
- The board is directly related to the Minister of family, labor, and social services and is responsible for planning and carrying out the inspections.
- As of 2014, a total of 1005 inspectors were working within the board, and the annual budget of the board was 80.304.932TL TL.

# The Social Security Institution (SSI)

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- With its financial and administrative rights, the Social Security Institution is a related institution of the Ministry.
- According to the 60th article of the Turkish Constitution, "Everyone has the right of social security."
- In addition, the article gives the government the right to take the required measurements and found institutions to ensure social security.

# The Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute (OHSRDI)

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- It is an institution that is related to the General Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety.
- Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute (OHSRDI), formerly named as Occupational Health and Safety Centre, was founded with the financial and technical support of the UNDP and ILO in 1986.
- In 2015, it became an institution (and its name was changed)

# The Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute (OHSRDI)

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- Providing laboratory support to the Labor Inspection Board and to workplaces upon request is among the main duties of the OHSRDI.
- Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute, specifies the standards that the laboratories should comply with and authorizes the laboratories.
- In addition, Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute provides training and consultancy services to other groups as well.

# The Centre for Labour and Social Security Training and Research (CLSSTR)

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- This centre was founded in 1955 as an agency of the Ministry with the name of "Near and Middle East Labor Institute"
- The aim of the institution is to train the authorities working in the field of occupational health and safety, and social security as well as to guard the working relations between the workers and the employers.
- The Centre also conducts research activities and holds seminars on working life, social security, relations between the employers and the workers, etc.
- The Centre publishes books on occupational diseases, safety, and health in agriculture, employment policies for the disabled, and social dialog in workplaces.



# The Ministry of Health

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- The Ministry of Health was founded in 1920 and is responsible for providing preventive services along with treatment services.
- The Ministry of Health is the government's main institution responsible for policy making in the health sector, the implementation of national health strategies, and the direct provision of health services. 0th article of the Turkish Constitution, "Everyone has the right of social security."

# The Ministry of Health

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- For a long time, occupational health and safety issues were of the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MoLSS) and, as its relevant institution, the Social Insurance Institution.
- The Ministry of Labor and Social Security and Social Insurance Institution had more than 100 general hospitals and 3 occupational diseases hospitals. In 2005, the responsibility of all hospitals and other health institutions was transferred to the Ministry of Health.

# The Turkish Standards Institution

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- Turkish Standards Institution (TSI) was founded in 1960 as an independent institution with the task of applying standardization, conformity assessment, and calibration activities in order to increase the quality of life of the society by increasing domestic and international trade.
- Among the standards of TSI, there are more than 900 standards related to occupational health and safety: such as construction safety, machine safety, textiles, personal protection, and petroleum and petroleum products.
- TSI has adapted various international standards as well.