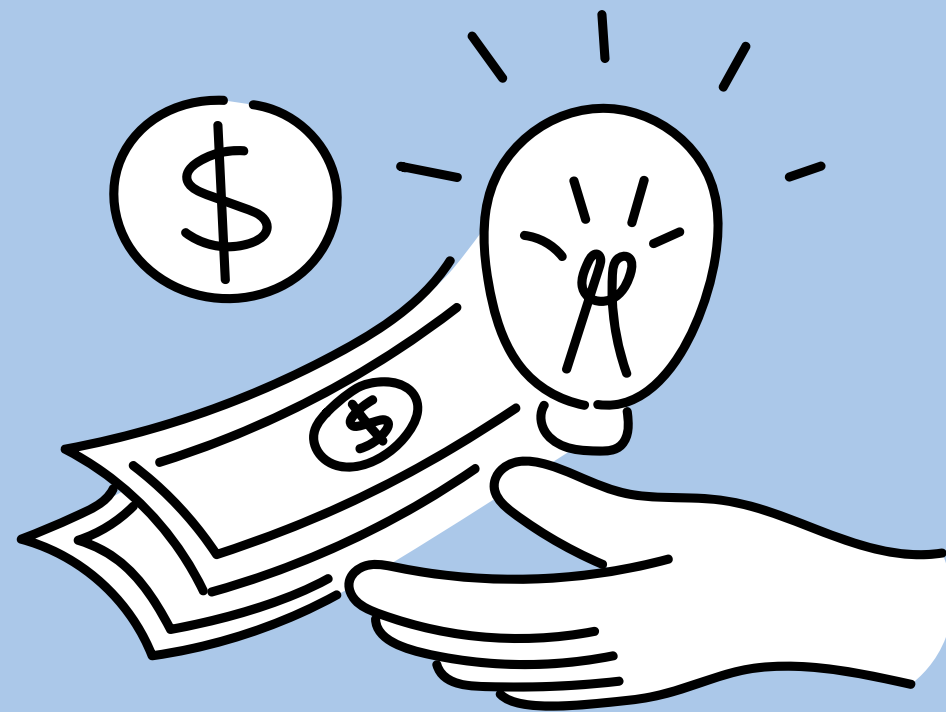


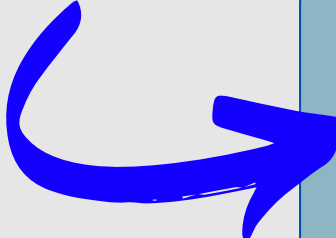
To what extent is labor still exploited in France?

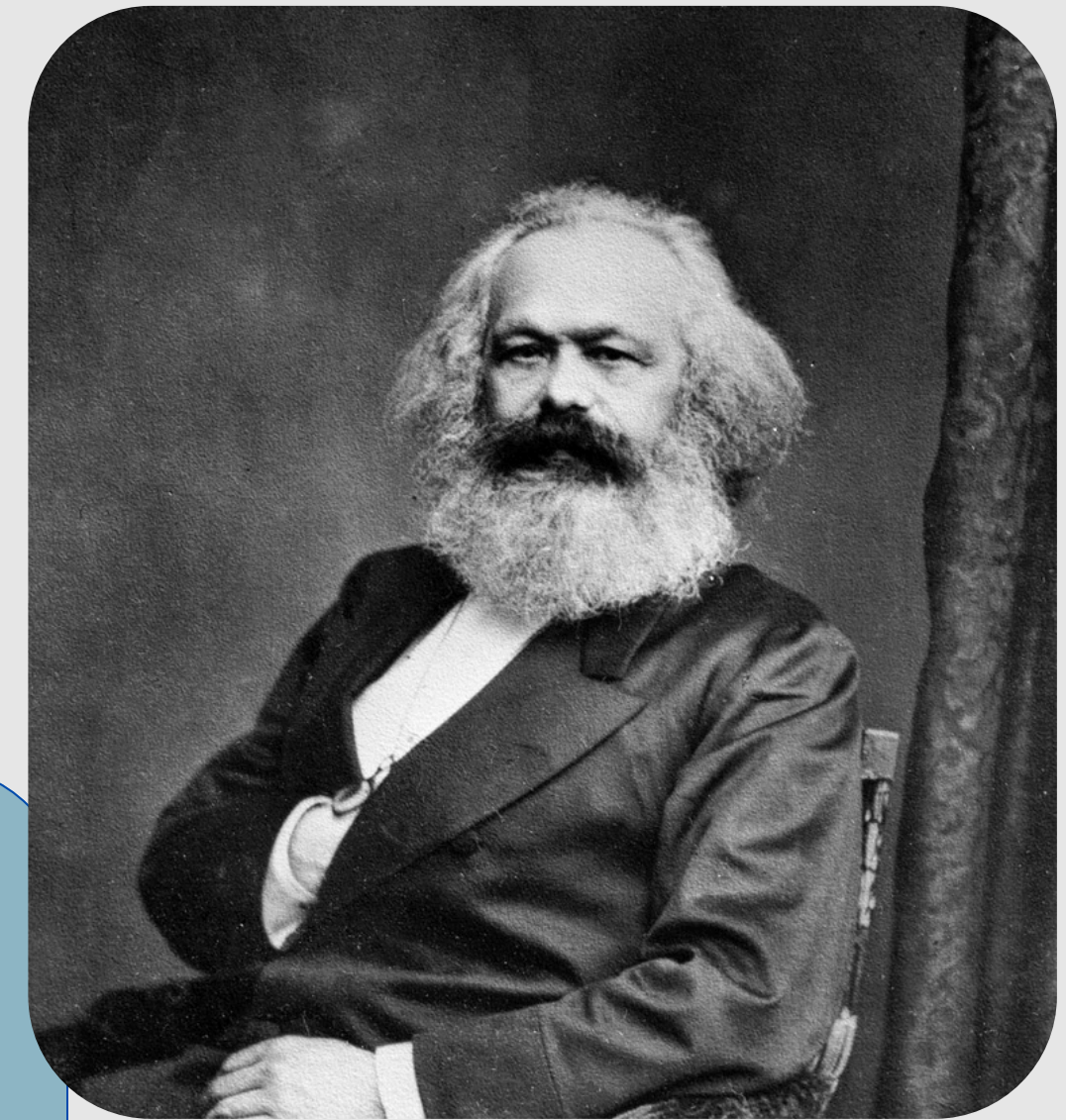


BACKGROUND & INTRODUCTION

"Capitalism extracts from the worker more labor than what it costs him to subsist. This difference constitutes surplus value." Karl Marx, Capital, 1867.

FUNDAMENTALS

- 
- **Capitalism** : economic and social system based on the private ownership of the means of production and exchange, profit-seeking, and free competition.
 - In **2023**, according to the **CEVIPOF Barometer** :
 - > **35%** of French workers reported feeling an intensification of their workload,
 - > while **44%** considered their salary insufficient compared to their level of commitment.



Karl Marx, economist, philosopher, and communist sociologist

How does labor exploitation persist in France despite legal protections and social progress ?

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

I - The traditional exploitation

(Social Gains & Persistent Inequalities...)

II - New forms of exploitation

(Uberisation...)

III - Solutions and prospects for change

(Strengthening labor laws and protecting precarious workers...)

CONCLUSION & OPENING



I - The traditional exploitation

SOCIAL ACHIEVEMENTS
NOTABLE ADVANCES



KEY LABOR PROTECTIONS IN FRANCE :

LABOR PROTECTIONS

- 35-hour workweek & SMIC → Pillars of job stability & fair wages.

SOCIAL SAFETY NET

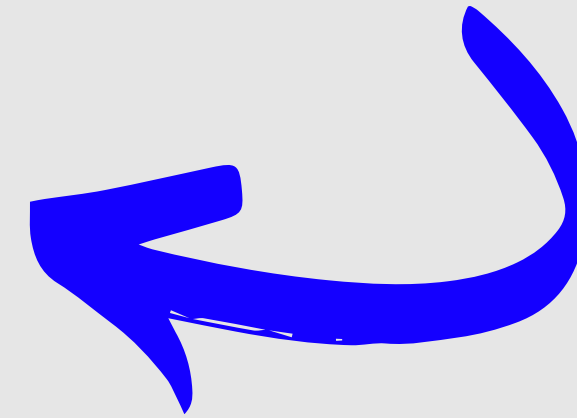
- Social Security (1945) → Strongest worker protection covering healthcare & pensions.

STATE & UNIONS' ROLE

- Trade unions → Key players in wage negotiations & labor rights.

ONGOING CHALLENGES

- Gig economy & job precarity → Major threats to worker security.



I - The traditional exploitation



JOB INSECURITY

Fixed-term contracts, temp work & undeclared labor

=> **Many workers lack stability & essential protections** (unemployment benefits, paid leave, pensions).

EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN WORKERS



Low-wage, high-risk sectors (agriculture, construction, domestic work)
→ **Harsh conditions & no job security.**

PERSISTENT INEQUALITIES

=> **Women** still earn less than men for the same roles.

=> **Young** workers cycle through internships & unstable jobs.

=> **Seniors** face age-related wage discrimination & career barriers.



67% of **green jobs** (2024) → Physically demanding & insecure, proving job precarity persists even in sustainable industries.



WAGE INEQUALITIES

PRECARITY IN EMERGING SECTORS

II - New forms of exploitation

THE RISE OF UBERIZATION



Lack of Protections : ⚠️

Uber, Deliveroo, Bolt riders are **self-employed**, meaning no paid leave, unemployment benefits, or pensions.

Unstable & Costly Work : ⚠️

Earnings depend on **algorithm-driven gigs** → Workers must cover all expenses (fuel, maintenance, insurance).

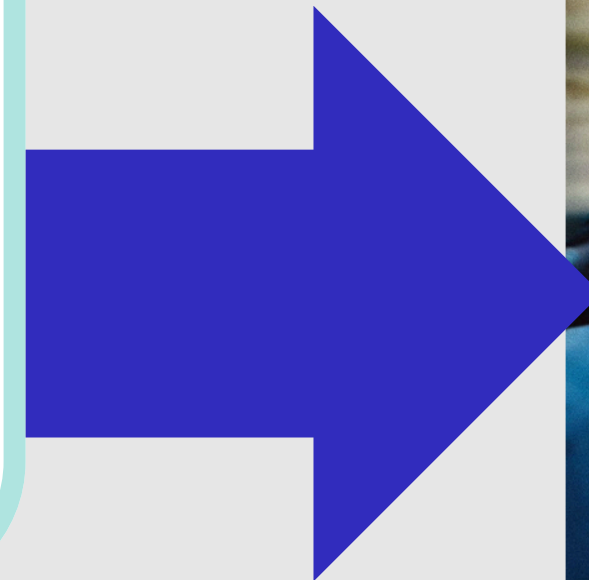
Long Hours, Low Security : ⚠️

Many work **10+ hours/day** with no guaranteed income, facing harsh conditions & physical risks.

63% of executives (2024) work 40+ hours/week, exceeding legal limits => **Overwork & Burnout**

Blurred work-life boundaries → Constant emails & calls, leading to stress & fatigue
=> **Remote Work Struggles**

High targets & workload surges (e.g., COVID-19) drive burnout => **Rising Mental Pressure**



L'histoire de Souleymane (2024) Boris Ljkine



Uber

Bolt

II - New forms of exploitation

YOUNG WORKERS

THE PRECARIITY OF YOUNG WORKERS AND CAREGIVERS

Internships & short-term contracts offer little job security.

=> **Unstable Jobs**

Long hours & heavy tasks with low wages & little recognition.

=> **Low Pay, High Pressure**

Working while studying leads to exhaustion & skipped meals.

=> **Financial Struggles**

CAREGIVERS

Balancing full-time jobs with family caregiving leads to stress & exhaustion

=> **Double Workload**

Constant juggling of work & care duties leaves little time for rest or career growth.

=> **Endless Cycle**

In 2024, **25%** of workers had caregiving responsibilities.



À plein temps (2021) Éric Gravel

III - Rethinking Work: Solutions & Future Outlook

WORK MODELS AND REFORMS



Better Wages & Protections

Higher SMIC & worker reclassification (Uber/Deliveroo) improve job security.



Power of Strikes

Protests push for better wages & labor rights (e.g., pension reform).



New Work Models

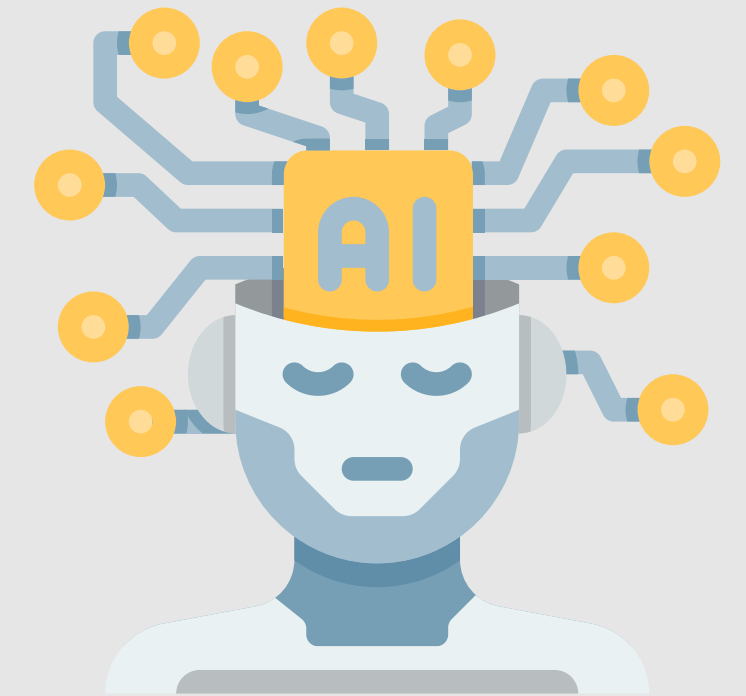
4-day workweek boosts productivity & well-being.

UBI debated as a safety net for precarious jobs.



III - Rethinking Work: Solutions & Future Outlook

MANAGING AUTOMATION AND AI TO PROTECT WORKERS



AI & Automation:

Risk -> Job losses in industry & services,
Opportunity -> potential to ease workloads.

Balancing Innovation & Job Security

AI should assist, not replace workers !!!

=> focus on **reducing stress & fatigue**.

Worker Adaptation & Protections :

Retraining **programs & regulations** needed
to secure jobs & rights.

CONCLUSION & OPENING



Marx's critique of labor exploitation remains relevant today, as precarity, wage inequalities, and platform-based work continue to challenge fair employment.

The future of labor will depend on regulation, workers' rights, and technology management, ensuring progress leads to fairer work conditions rather than deeper exploitation.

As work continues to evolve, the challenge remains:
will progress lead to greater fairness or new forms
of exploitation?



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THANK YOU!