


The growing precariat

Objective 4.1

To become familiar with the interplay of assumptions, interests, power, and technology feeding the growing precariousness of livelihoods and the implications for human wellbeing. (67 minutes)

4.0 Watch “What is the Precariat.” (12:39)

<p>What is the Precariat Guy Standing TEDxPrague</p> 
<p>Standing, Guy. “What is the Precariat,” video, 12:39, posted by TEDx Talks to YouTube, February 16, 2017. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnYhZCUYOxs https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnYhZCUYOxs</p>

In the first video, Guy Standing powerfully sets out the rapidly changing class structure made up of oligarchs, the shrinking middle, traditional working class decline, the rise of precarious work, and the growing ranks of the dispossessed: more and more of whom are dying on the streets. The implications of increasing precariousness are explored—for capitalism, for meaning, for inequality, and for civil, economic, and political rights. Standing concludes by introducing the idea of a universal basic income, which he argues as a key policy to combat the desperate consequences of the current trends.