

Society Against Labor Endangerment (SALE)

Organization Background:

The Society Against Labor Endangerment (SALE) is an international **non-governmental organization (NGO)** that recently moved its headquarters to Dellis, the capital of Ekara. Since its founding in 1989, SALE has worked as an advocate for the preservation of **intellectual property rights** and employee safety. It specifically campaigns for the rights of garment workers who are often exploited by their employers and exposed to unsafe conditions. Its mission is to raise awareness, provide information, and promote international solidarity between workers and consumers.



Due to poor employee regulations, lack of factory inspections, and market demand for quick product turnover, some clothing brands and garment factories regularly cut corners. They often increase profit at the expense of workers who face long hours, low pay, and unsafe factory conditions. Immigrants, women, and children, who have historically received the lowest wages, are especially vulnerable to exploitation.

In an effort to address the fair and just treatment of garment workers worldwide, SALE advocates directly with companies in Beyaria to improve working conditions and labor practices in garment factories. Beyarian companies **outsource** manufacturing to Ekara. SALE believes that Beyarian companies can use their influence to halt worker exploitation and mistreatment in the factories they hire to make their products.

SALE has been working for over ten years to identify and expose counterfeit operations in the region around Ekara and Grenesia. SALE believes that safe working conditions in factories is a government responsibility. More recently, it has worked to address child labor exploitation in garment factories by monitoring child labor practices and encouraging increased child labor legislation in individual countries. SALE also involves local authorities to place exploited or endangered children in schools. It then provides funding to families to replace the wages lost when children attend school, thereby increasing the likelihood that they will be able to continue their education.

SALE has had some success in Ekara with the cooperation of the government. It has seen fewer improvements in Grenesia due, in part, to governmental restrictions on access to the country. In order to address the prevalence of unsafe working conditions in factories, SALE needs governmental cooperation.

Opening Position:

- The international community respects SALE for its past successes.
- You will be critical of Beyaria's apparent tolerance for unsafe labor practices in the factories that make their goods.
- You will be critical of the lack of cooperation in Grenesia with your organizational efforts.
- You believe that labor exploitation, specifically of children, is criminal and should be prosecuted in all cases.
- You can rely on effective emotional arguments and sympathy generated by the public to support your cause.
- You would like to see TRIPS play a stronger leadership role on this issue

Society Against Labor Endangerment (SALE)

Questions to Consider:

- How does SALE work with nations to address issues of unsafe labor practices?
- How do NGOs, such as SALE, support the education of consumers?
- What are the goals of SALE?
- How can SALE work with other stakeholders to achieve better labor conditions for garment workers?

