

**CURRENT AFFAIRS**

# SHADOW ECONOMIES – THE SECRET LIFELINE OF CAPITALISM?

52' (ENG), 90' (GER)

**Worldwide, one in two people works in the informal economy - and the trend is rising.**

In the countries of the "Global South", insecure, unregulated employment relationships in the shadow economy have always been the bitter norm. But even in the western industrialized countries, the proportion of people with a "standard employment relationship", with clear rules for working hours, vacation and insurance against illness and old age, is falling. What are the causes of this development and what are the prospects? What will the future of work look like? Will informal work become the new norm? And what is it like to live in this precarious, informal normality?

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