A labour or industrial relations system reflects the interaction between the main actors in it: the state, the employer (or employers or an employers’ association), trade unions and employees (who may participate or not in unions and other bodies affording workers’ representation). Newer forms of employee representation and participation are adding an additional dimension to the labour relations picture in a number of countries. Employers—that is, providers of work—are usually differentiated in industrial relations systems depending upon whether they are in the private or the public sector. Historically, trade unionism and collective bargaining developed first in the private sector, but in recent years these phenomena have spread to many public sector settings as well. Conflict and Cooperation in Sino-US Relations Change and Continuity, Causes and Cures. New Labour Policy, Industrial Relations and the Trade Unions. Conciliarism and Heresy in Fifteenth-Century England Collective Authority in the Age of the General Councils. Process Consultation Revisited. Medieval Church Councils in Scotland. Process Consultation Revisited. Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation An Introduction to Theory and History 9th Edition. Works Councils: Consultation, Representation, and Cooperation in Industrial Relations. Joel Rogers & Wolfgang Streeck, editors. Works councils—institutionalized bodies for representative communication between an employer and employees in a single workplace—are rare in the Anglo-American world, but are well-established in other industrialized countries. The contributors to this volume survey the history, structure, and functions of works councils in the Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, Sweden, Italy, Poland, Canada, and the United States. On the basis of extensive comparative data from other Western countries, the book demonstrates powerfully that well-designed works councils may be more effective than labor unions at solving management-labor problems.