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European Transport Workers' Federation
Fédération Européenne des Travailleurs des Transports
Europäische Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Federación Europea de los Trabajadores del Transporte

ETF Road Transport

The Warsaw Declaration

The European Transport Workers' Federation and its member organisations

Call on the European Commission, European Parliament and the EU Member States

To adopt a Road Initiative to effectively combat social dumping and unfair competition

In the EU road transport sector

The ETF represents more than 3.5 million transport workers from more than 230 transport unions and 41 European countries, in the following sectors: road transport, railways, maritime transport, inland waterways, civil aviation, ports, tourism and fisheries. The ETF is the recognised social partner in seven European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committees including Road Transport.

The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) and its member organisations

Representing 3.5 million transport workers from 41 European countries, including bus, coach and truck drivers,

Sharing the core values and principles of the Social Europe notably a Fair Transport for all, equal pay for equal work of equal value, decent and lawful working conditions for transport workers, respect of law and of collective bargaining agreements

Meeting in Warsaw on 4 – 5 April 2017:

Having regard to Jean-Claude Juncker's Political Guidelines for the next European Commission¹ stated before the European Parliament on 15 July 2014, in which he declares *"We have to fight social dumping and we will do it"* as well as to his commitment for a targeted review of the Posting of workers Directive *"to ensure that social dumping has no place in the European Union"*,

Having regard to the commitment made by the head of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, in the same statement, that *"In our Union, the same work at the same place should be remunerated in the same manner"*,

Having regard to The Rome Declaration signed as recently as 15th of March 2017 by the governments of the EU Member States and setting the vision for the future Europe 60 years ahead of its establishment, notably reiterating the Member States' commitment *"to work towards ... a social Europe ... which ...promotes economic and social progress as well as cohesion and convergence...equality between women and men...rights and equal opportunities for all; ...which fights unemployment, discrimination, social exclusion and poverty"*,

Having regard to the persistently declared intention, over the past three years, by Transport Commissioner Violeta Bulc that the European Commission will propose a legislative initiative for road transport - a so called Road Initiative - which to effectively address social dumping and unfair competition in the sector,

Having regard to the declared aim of the Road Initiative to solely simplify, clarify and make rules more enforceable,

Having regard to Article 45 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union which guarantees a secure freedom of movement for workers in the European Union, entailing *"the abolition of any discrimination based on nationality between workers of the Member States as regards employment, remuneration and other conditions of work and employment"*,

¹ "A New Start for Europe: My Agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change Political Guidelines for the next European Commission", Opening Statement by Jean-Claude Juncker in the European Parliament Plenary Session



Having regard to the critical situation the EU road transport sector faces in terms of respect of drivers' labour and social rights, in terms of competition between road transport operators, in terms of fraudulent schemes and practices orchestrated among others via the widely-spread letter-box companies,

Whereas the ETF and its member organisations have recently come across the set of concrete measures by the European Commission to be included in the Road Initiative which are 100% market-orientated and contain no measures meant to improve drivers' living and working conditions,

Whereas the EC measures intended for the Road Initiative fail to take into account the ETF concrete proposals made with regard to cabotage, access to occupation and better law enforcement in road transport,

Whereas the EC measures fail to address job precariousness in bus, coach and freight transport, fail to address the current levels of driver fatigue, fail to improve occupational health and safety in the sector,

Whereas the intended EC measures represent an attack to the safety of passengers and safety of road users in Europe,

Whereas the intended EC measures go totally against a) the commitments made by the European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in the above quoted political guidelines of the European Commission; b) the vision on the future of Europe set by the EU Member States in The Rome Declaration; c) the values and principles set in Article 45 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union; d) the commitments made by DG MOVE with regard to the aim and objectives of the Road Initiative,

Whereas despite reports by trade unions and by some Member States on letter box-companies the European Commission has so far taken no action against them,

Whereas large operators had and continue to open subsidiaries in low-income Member States for the sole reason to exploit local workforce,

Whereas flagging out business and circumventing the law have caused huge prejudices to all Member States in terms of revenue from social security and taxation,

While the ETF and its member organisations salute the initiatives of the European Parliament to flag up the need for a robust Road Initiative which to effectively address social dumping, poor law enforcement and unfair competition,

While the ETF and its member organisations salute the initiative of the Road Alliance of the 9 European countries attempting to restore the dignity of the professional driver, the climate of compliance and the fair competition in the road transport sector,



While the ETF and its member organisations condemn the European Commission's unfounded infringement procedures opened against any Member State engaged in enforcing the EU law and in fighting fraud and social dumping in road transport,

While the ETF and its member organisations understand that law compliance and respect for workers' rights as a prerequisite for the well-functioning of the Internal Market,

The ETF and its member organisations:

Call on the European Commission and the EU Member States to respect their commitments towards the European citizens, among which 2.8 million professional drivers, and rebuild a true social Europe for people based on social progress, equal treatment, job quality and security,

Call on the European Commission to respect their commitment and launch a Road Initiative aimed to simplify and clarify the EU rules for the sector, making them enforceable, while staying within the policy objectives declared in each and every piece of EU legislation applicable to road transport (i.e. the declared objectives of the EU driving and rest time regulation are to safeguard fair competition and road safety, and to improve the drivers' working conditions, and any proposed amendment to these rules must stay within this set of goals),

Call on the European Commission to show ownership, leadership and political will by proposing an Initiative that ends distortions on labour and transport markets of EU Member States, that ends competition based on the illegal exploitation of wage gaps in Europe,

Call on the European Commission to include the ETF concrete proposals in the Road Initiative as these proposals guarantee better enforcement, better safety of drivers, passengers and road users, as well as a level playing field for the business,

Call on the European Commission and the Member States to put an end to all derogations from the EU rules that could further jeopardise driver, passenger and road user safety,

Call on the European Commission and the Member States to combat bogus self-employment and therefore keep the self-employed drivers under the same rights and working conditions, covered by the same rules, as the employed ones, to avoid the unfair competition and ensure a level playing field in the sector,

Call on the EU Member States to rally together in actively defending the dignity of hundreds of thousands of professional drivers victims of social dumping,

Call on the EU Member States to cooperate actively to promote fair competition in road transport by clamping down on letter-box companies, a threat for compliant local road transport operators and for drivers alike,



Call on the EU Member States and the European Commission to acknowledge that fair competition has at its core the improvement of workers' rights and, under no circumstances, pitting of transport workers against each other,

**In a Social Europe, competitiveness within the Internal Market
cannot be built on the exploitation of its citizens!**

Warsaw, 5 April 2017

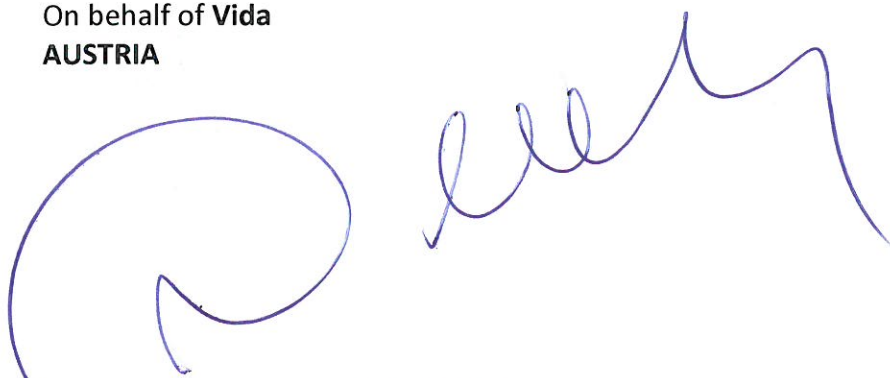


President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

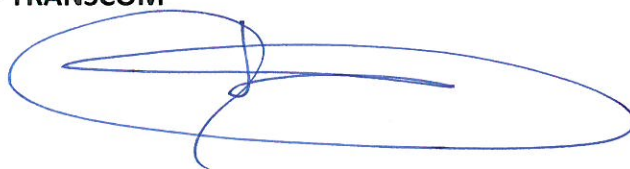
Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



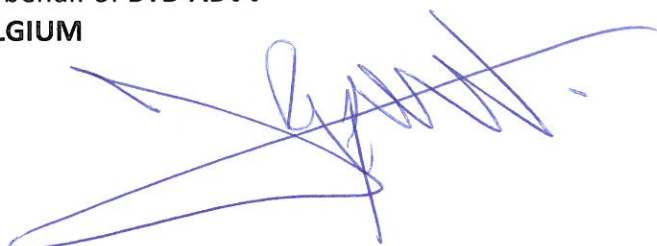
On behalf of **Vida**
AUSTRIA



On behalf of **ACV TRANSCOM**
BELGIUM



On behalf of **BTB-ABVV**
BELGIUM



On behalf of **FTTUB**
BULGARIA

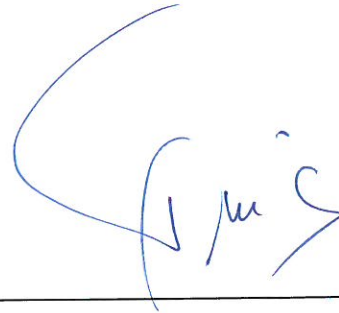


President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



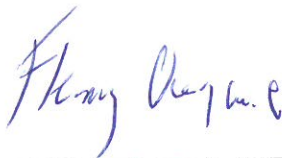
On behalf of **OSD**
CZECH REPUBLIC




On behalf of **verdi**
GERMANY



On behalf of **3F**
DENMARK



On behalf of **FSC-CC.OO**
SPAIN



President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



On behalf AKT
FINLAND

Juha Oksanen

On behalf CFDT TRANSPORTS
FRANCE

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On behalf of CFTC
FRANCE

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On behalf of FO
FRANCE

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President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

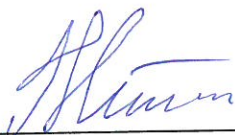
Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



On behalf of **CGT TRANSPORTS**
FRANCE



On behalf of **Trade Union for Transport and Communications**
FYROM



On behalf of **KSzOSz**
HUNGARY



On behalf of **FILT CGIL**
ITALY



President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



On behalf of **FIT CISL**
ITALY

Adriano Maurizio

On behalf of the **Lithuanian Road and Transport Workers' Federation**
LITHUANIA

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On behalf of the **International Transport Workers' Federation**
LONDON

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On behalf of **GWU**
MALTA

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On behalf of **FNV**
THE NETHERLANDS

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President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



On behalf of **Norsk Transportarbeiderforbund**
NORWAY

Dag-Tina Sivertsen

On behalf of **Fagforbundet**
NORWAY

O.J. Delingsrud

On behalf of **Yrkestrafikkforbundet**
NORWAY

Lars Gattstad

On behalf of **National Road Transport Section of Solidarnosc**
POLAND

Janusz

On behalf of **S.L.T – ATU Romania**
Romania

Fauly



President Lars Lindgren
General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova



On behalf of **Kommunal**
SWEDEN

Susanne Gunn

On behalf of **Unite the Union**
United Kingdom

A. Gunn



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General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova

