To the attention of the S&D delegation of Romanian MEPs  

Brussels, 27 June 2018

Dear Mr. Nica,
Dear Mr. Bostinaru,
Dear Romanian members of the S&D Group of the European Parliament

Your vote on the Mobility package of 4 July will decide over the work and lives of thousands of Romanian professional drivers working abroad in deplorable conditions

A very important vote will be taking place next week, on 4 July, to decide on the salaries and on the working and living conditions of truck, bus and coach drivers in Europe.

Thousands of Romanian drivers working and living abroad in deplorable conditions will watch this vote.

We call on you to vote in favour of the EMPL amendments during the plenary vote on the Mobility Package to take place in Strasbourg on 4 July.

Indeed, the EMPL amendments are the only ones having the power to address the situation of thousands of Romanian truck drivers who are currently cruelly exploited by the industry. For more details and a thorough justification in this sense, please see attached the emails sent to you already and covering the driving and rest time and the posting of workers.

As in road transport Romania remains one of the two largest labour providing EU Member States after Poland, evidence of the appalling condition of the Romanian drivers multiplies. They wash, eat and sleep by and in their lorries, next to motorways, in circumstances that remind of slavery. There is no month without a death of a Romanian driver, somewhere in Europe, due to stress and exhaustion – young and old alike, working abroad simply because they want to offer a better life to their families.

This situation has to stop, and we consider that the Romanian social democrats – the largest delegation from the New Member States in the S&D group of the European Parliament – must vote in favour to tight driving and rest time rules, in favour of a loophole-free return-to-the-home country solution, in favour of proper rest conditions for the drivers, and in favour of eliminating any form of wage-discrimination based on nationality.

Having said that, we ask you to meet the ETF Road Transport Section President Roberto Parrillo on Tuesday 3 July, in Strasbourg, in order to clarify any potential questions you may have, relating to our express demand formulated above.

Yours sincerely,

Ion Radoi
President, ATU Romania

Roberto Parrillo
President, ETF Road Transport Section