# **PLATFORM WORK**



### **WHAT EVERY WORKER NEEDS TO KNOW**

## LOW PAY. LONG HOURS. ZERO BENEFITS. HOW?

PLATFORM
COMPANIES
MISCLASSIFY THEIR
WORKERS AS
SELF-EMPLOYED

**WHAT THEY SAY** 

VS

### WHAT THEY REALLY MEAN

**YOU'LL BE YOUR OWN BOSS** 

WE'LL CONTROL EVERY MINUTE OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS, YOUR UNIFORM, HOW MUCH YOU CHARGE

YOU'LL HAVE FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY

YOU'LL HAVE NO HOLIDAYS, NO SICK LEAVE, NO BENEFITS

**WE CHAMPION INNOVATION** 

WE'RE TAKING WORKERS' RIGHTS
BACKWARDS BY STRIPPING YOU OF YOUR

**RIGHTS** 



### **AT A GLANCE**

28.3 MILLION
WORK IN PLATFORMS

**500** PLATFORMS

55% WODKE

IN EUROPE

DO NOT MAKE MINIMIUM WAGE

'STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

### PLATFORMS IN TRANSPORT

In transport, platform work is most common in parcel delivery, food delivery and ride-hailing services. But, app-based and computer controlled work threatens to spread to ALL transport sectors.

Why? Because platform companies can pretend their workers are self-employed and this allows them to cut costs on the backs of workers.

This way of working by platforms is shutting down businesses that respect workers.

### **UNION ACTION**

Trade unions have been leading the fight against unfair platform work, winning victories, including:

December 2021 – Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between Spanish social partners (including UGT & CCOO) and Just Eat



May 2021 - GMB (UK) and UBER reach landmark deal to officially recognise GMB as a union for UBER drivers



February 2021 – FNV (NL) win their court case against Deliveroo, confirming riders are employees



September 2020 - Spanish supreme court decides Glovo riders are not independent workers - they are employees



### A EUROPEAN SOLUTION?

Thanks to trade union pressure, in December 2021, the European Commission released a proposal to improve the working conditions of platform workers.

#### WHAT'S IN IT FOR WORKERS?



#### **EMPLOYMENT STATUS:**

Platform workers are considered employees by default, guaranteeing health & safety standards, social protections, minimum wages and training



#### **PLATFORMS = EMPLOYERS:**

Platform companies are considered employers, giving Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations the green light and improving protection of workers' rights



#### **REVERSAL OF BURDEN OF PROOF:**

Platform companies must prove that the worker is self-employed rather than the the worker having to do so



#### TRANSPARENT MANAGEMENT:

Fairness, transparency and accountability - workers no longer only managed by computers

### WHAT NEEDS TO IMPROVE?

The Directive says platform workers have employment status until proven otherwise, BUT introduces five criteria to determine this status.



By introducing these criteria:

- The Directive could leave room for platform companies to dodge new rules
- This would mean not all platform workers would be covered if companies find loopholes in these five criteria

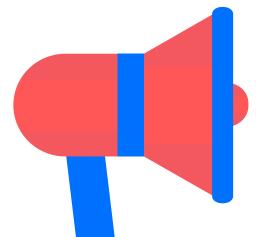
### NEXT STEPS IN OUR FIGHT WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Before the Directive becomes law, it needs to go through the European Council of Ministers and Parliament. EU countries will then have two years to bring these EU rules into national law.

This means the proposal can still be changed - and not necessarily for the better!

Companies will have to start paying their dues if the law goes through - and it will cost them!

So we expect them to put a fight, but so will we as trade unions by pushing the EU to make sure these rules work for workers!



Join us, the ETF and our trade union organisations, in our fight for FAIR EU law against platform abuse:

- Keep up to date
- Tell us what you think

TIME TO FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE OF DECENT WORK!







