

Brussels, 06/09/2022

CALL FOR EXTERNAL EXPERTISE

**Strengthening the capacity of workers' organisations to address
social challenges in land transport in Europe
Project 101048319**

Call for tenders I: Addressing social challenges in road transport

1. Background

European land transport goes through key changes and challenges. Key in this mix are: the European Union Green Deal, the Just Transition Mechanism and the Smart and Sustainable Mobility Strategy. As transport was strongly hit by the pandemic, the EU Recovery and Resilience facility will also influence policy choices. Here, Member States have requested EU financial aid to allegedly support the development of climate friendly modes. In addition, platform economy is gaining ground and will certainly lead to unprecedented changes in urban mobility. All this will have a strong social and labour impact. The ETF role is to ensure that social and labour dimensions are part of these processes and policies. Building capacity among its members, to constructively participate in these processes, will be key in balancing social and climate goals and achieve a post-covid, more sustainable, land distribution of transport modes.

This project enables the ETF to achieve the above by a two-tier approach: a sector specific one (road, rail, urban public transport – UPT - and platform economy), feeding into a holistic approach, covering land transport. The project will benefit all ETF member organisations, beyond the EU geographical coverage and will require a complex methodology and thus, external expertise (3 experts to work on the road, rail and the UPT pillars). The expert work would be enriched by input from the ETF member organisations, via a series of 8 workshops.

The project is overseen by a Project Steering Group, who equally undertakes the task to develop political content and strategy relating to an ETF land transport vision.

The final conference of the project will tap into this dimension, putting across the ETF vision for a socially sustainable land transport in Europe.

2. Purpose of the Contract

With financial support from the European Union



The external expert is needed to perform the scientific research work of the road transport work package. The ETF does not have the necessary human resources to implement this requirement accordingly.

The focus of the road transport work package is: **3rd country drivers and the EU legal frame making it possible for them to reside and work in the EU.**

Trade union organisations are in urgent need to develop a clear understating of how an EU complex legal frame applies to thirds country drivers. This impacts on their capacity to engage in strategic actions meant to defend drivers' rights. This work package therefore aims at addressing this gap and enabling the ETF affiliates to become active in better representing TCNs rights and interests.

The objective of this work package will be to provide in-depth knowledge on the specific strategies, practices and structures used by companies to exploit TCNs in the European road transport sector; to uncover possible weaknesses in the EU legislation and to suggest areas where further legislation is potentially needed to specifically address the precarious situation of TCNs. The project will also seek to map which Member States most commonly act as gateways for the recruitment of TCNs in road freight as well as which Member States the TCNs are usually posted to.

Specific objectives will be:

- To provide trade unions with know-how and to build capacity in helping and protecting TCNs as well as to provide a platform for campaigning for better rules to cover TCNs.
- To provide legislators and enforcement authorities with policy recommendations for action as regards shortcomings in the existing Union *acquis* as well as shortcomings in its implementation and coordinated enforcement.



3. Tasks to be performed by the expert

Since the challenge of abusive use of workers from third countries will require action at the level of legislators, social partners and authorities in different Member States, exchange of information and knowledge is necessary for a comprehensive approach.

In a first step research is necessary to provide an analysis of the current situation for TCNs, including the legal frame applicable to this group of workers (road transport sector, access to EU labour market, etc.). The study will be based on desk research and qualitative interviews. The second step is the exchange of information in two workshops with the trade union representatives from the most affected countries. These workshops will also serve as means for exchange of experience. The project will draft policy recommendations which consequences shall be drawn.

3.1 Description of tasks

The expert has to perform the following tasks:

- Report of 20 pages based on
 - desk research on the legal framework
 - qualitative interviews (in 4 countries decided on by the expert and the project steering group)
- Participation in 2 workshops
- Participation in 1 Final Conference

3.2 Guidance and indications on tasks execution and methodology

Concrete guidance will be given by the PSG and the project manager during implementation.

4. Expertise required

The tenderer shall prove his/her expertise with examples of his/her work. The contract will only be awarded to tenderers that can prove that they fulfil the following criteria:

- Fluent in English (both oral and written);
- Experience in drafting studies in social science;
- Knowledge of the legal framework and the ability to reproduce the contents in a comprehensible manner;



- Experience in conducting interviews in different countries;
- Cooperation contacts in different European countries and/or personnel with relevant European language skills;
- Experience in supporting international projects with diverse partners;
- Knowledge of the transport sector;
- Respect of budgetary constraints.

The expert can be an individual, an organization or a consortium made up of several entities.

5. Time schedule and reporting

Work package as in the grant agreement	Topic	Date	Planned number of days
Task 2.1	Order and contract with contractor	Oct. 2022	0,5
Task 2.2	Conducting secondary scientific research on the legal framework	Oct. 2022-May 2023	5-6
Task 2.2	Developing an interview guideline (questionnaire) and running targeted interviews with the stakeholders from 4 countries	Oct. 2022-May 2023	5-6
Milestone 2	Draft report interim research results	April 2023	7-8
Task 2.3	Participation Workshop 1 (online)	Jan/Feb 2023	2
Task 2.4	Participation workshop 2 (Poland, tbc)	May/June 2023	2
Deliverable 2.1	Draft final report	Sept. 2023	7-8
Task 6.1	Participation final Conference, Brussels	December 2023	1
			Total 29,5-33,5



6. Payments and standard contract

The expert will receive an advance and final payment following the EU rules and upon receipt of a correct invoice. Payments will be made in three phases:

- 30 per cent upon signing of the contract;
- 35 per cent after Milestone 2: Draft report interim research results;
- 35 per cent after the completion of the work.

A standard contract template can be received upon request.

7. Price

The maximum budget available (covering all taxes including VAT¹) is 25,000.00 EUR. This amount does not include travels, hotel and subsistence costs that will be covered by the ETF separately.

8. Selection criteria related to the financial and technical capacity of the bidders

A proof of sound finances can be requested by the bidder.

9. Award criteria related to the quality of the bids received

The contract will be awarded to the tenderer whose offer represents the best value for money - taking into account the following criteria:

Criteria	Description	Value
Price	Best value for money	30 per cent

¹ services delivered from outside of Belgium are subject to Belgian 21 per cent VAT which must be considered as included in the total price





Quality and expertise	Proven expertise in: - scientific research work - social science - industrial relations - labour legislation - knowledge of the transport sector	40 per cent
Approach	Structured and open approach	20 per cent
Ability to write and speak in clear and concise English		10 per cent
TOTAL		100 per cent

It should be noted that the contract will not be awarded to a tenderer who receives less than 70% on the Award Criteria.

10. Content and presentation of the bids

a) Content of the offers

The offer must indicate how candidates meet the criteria listed above, as well as indicate the total price of the consultancy.

Individual candidates

In case of offers submitted by individual candidates, a CV should be attached.

Organisations

In case of offers submitted by organisations a list of the organisation's activities in fields relevant for the tasks to be performed should be attached as well as the CVs of the people who will be involved in the project.

References should also be provided.





Joint tenders

A joint tender is a situation where a tender is submitted by a group of economic operators (natural or legal persons). Joint tenders may include sub-contractors in addition to the members of the group. In case of joint tender, all members of the group assume joint and several liabilities towards ETF for the performance of the contract as a whole, i.e. both financial and operational liability. Nevertheless, tenderers must designate one of the economic operators as a single point of contact (the leader) for ETF for administrative and financial aspects as well as operational management of the contract.

After the award, ETF will sign the contract either with all members of the group, or with the leader on behalf of all members of the group, authorised by the other members via powers of attorney.

b) presentation of the offers

The offers, including a CV, must be sent by e-mail to:

Ekin Öztürk at e.ozturk@etf-europe.org.

c) deadline

The deadline for offers is on **Friday, 30 September 2022, 12:00hrs.**

