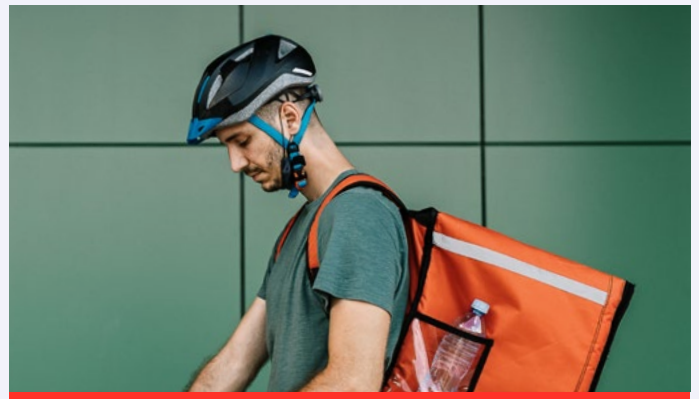


TRADE UNIONS ADDRESS SOCIAL CHALLENGES IN EUROPEAN LAND TRANSPORT



SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

With the pandemic, the climate crisis and technological advances, European Land Transport faces many key changes and challenges.

To respond to these changes, the EU resorted to policies and financial instruments that will have an unprecedented impact on the modal share in land transport, and on transport workers alike.

These are:

- › the European Union Green Deal
- › the Just Transition Mechanism
- › the Smart and Sustainable Mobility Strategy
- › the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility

This EU-funded project will enable The ETF to put the social and labour dimensions at the core of this policy mix through the active involvement of transport workers and their unions.

IN A NUTSHELL

Pillars: The project will include four pillars addressing sector-specific challenges in rail, road, urban public transport and platform economy.

Outcomes: Findings from each pillar will feed into an ETF land transport vision in the form of policy recommendations.

Activities: 8 workshops will be organised to gather input from ETF's transport unions and workers – two for each pillar.

A final conference will disseminate the project results.

ROAD TRANSPORT PILLAR



Tackling exploitation of third-country nationals in road transport

With the shortage of drivers in road freight transport, many operators resort to third-country drivers. New EU rules were recently adopted to address the sector's poor social record. However, there is evidence that these rules aren't applied to non-EU drivers. Precarious work keeps road transport artificially inexpensive, delaying the shift to more transport of goods by rail.

Aim:

- › Shed light on the application of EU rules – Mobility Package – to third-country drivers.
- › Develop legal guidance on the topic to be shared with the EU Institutions and the industry.

URBAN PUBLIC TRANSPORT PILLAR



Increase trade union capacity to address Urban Mobility trends

The push to decarbonise transport in cities and new technologies and concepts impact public transport. These developments can affect work patterns and jobs and create new forms of employment. Throughout these changes, it will be important to ensure high social standards among all types of mobility providers.

Aim:

- › Analyse the current developments in urban mobility from the workers' perspective.
- › Build trade unions' capacity to promote workers' interests in urban mobility strategies.

RAIL TRANSPORT PILLAR



Working conditions in rail under liberalisation

Despite the detrimental effects of liberalisation on the quality of jobs and services, policymakers still see it as a central element in the role rail will play in achieving the EU's climate targets. Transport policies centred on competition and liberalisation have not benefited the shift to more transport by rail. On the contrary, this led to precarious working conditions and created staff shortages.

Aim:

- › Analyse and understand the effects of liberalisation on working conditions in the rail sector compared to traditional integrated systems.
- › Build an evidence-based case on the benefits of keeping rail transport in public hands.

PLATFORM PILLAR



Getting unions' foot in the door to organise platform workers

The number of platform workers grows constantly, and though this type of work is currently concentrated in ride-hailing and delivery services, the platform economy will likely expand to other transport sectors. Platform work is based on precarious working conditions and does not provide workers with basic social and labour rights. It is important to tackle this before the platform model spreads to other sectors and further undermines workers' rights.

Aim:

- › Exchange and develop good practices on organising and advocacy in the platform economy given the transnational nature of platform companies with a focus on two areas:
 - › Collect information on current practices in the platform economy in the transport sector from the workers' perspective.
 - › Build trade unions' capacity to enforce workers' interests in the platform economy.

EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION



The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) represents over 5 million transport workers from more than 200 transport unions across Europe, from the European Union, the European Economic Area, and Central and Eastern Europe, in over 30 countries.

ETF's work is driven by its vision for Fair Transport: quality jobs with safe, reliable, affordable transport services.

For more information:

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“Strengthening the capacity of workers' organisations to address social challenges in land transport in Europe” with financial support from the European Union.

This EU-funded project will run until 30/01/24 and will be conducted by the ETF Secretariat. A Project Steering Committee made up of members of the Steering Committees of the ETF Road, Rail and Urban Public Transport sections will oversee its implementation.