

## UNDECLARED WORK

Neither the Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is responsible for the use which might be made of the following information.

### The European Platform on Undeclared Work

Welcome to our first Newsletter.

On October 10th the first plenary meeting of the European Platform on Undeclared Work was held. The Platform Members took an important step forward and adopted its Work Programme for 2017-18.

The Work Programme will deliver an ambitious set of activities to address issues arising from undeclared work across Europe. The Platform will encourage closer cooperation between Member States. By sharing information and best practice, it will help tackle and prevent undeclared work in the future.

The aim of the Platform is to contribute to the social agenda. Expectations are high and the level of commitment shown by members will be a critical factor in the Work Programme's success. The two newly elected co-chairs will help the Platform in this aim. I'd therefore like to welcome Yves Calvez, from the French Ministry of Labour, Employment, Vocational Training and Social Dialogue, and Renārs Lūsis from the Latvian State Labour Inspectorate and look very much forward to a fruitful cooperation.

Kind regards

#### Jordi Curell Gotor

Chair of the Undeclared Work Platform  
Director for Labour Mobility  
European Commission  
Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion



#### Work Programme 2017-18

The recent economic and financial crisis affected working conditions across Europe in a number of ways, from increasing job insecurity to reduced working time and wage cuts. This produced an impact on employment conditions. The EU has made tackling undeclared work a policy priority and as part of this has established the Platform.

The main aim of the Platform is to improve the capacity of Member States to deal with undeclared work and provide a useful input where measures related to undeclared work are considered at a national level. The cooperation of a number of institutions, including trade unions and employers' organisations, will be vital in promoting a fairer labour market and better working conditions.

The two-year Work Programme is a set of 28 lines of action to enable the Platform to deal with the problem of undeclared work using a comprehensive and holistic approach. It is also an important opportunity for Member States, in particular enforcement authorities, such as labour inspectorates, tax and social security authorities to learn from each other about what works, and what doesn't.

Three strategic priority axes will guide these activities:

- Cooperation and joint action
- Mutual learning
- Increasing knowledge

Also two sectors heavily affected by undeclared work - construction and transport – will be a focus in the first year.

Staff exchanges across borders, as well as training seminars, will aid operational cooperation. These will allow Platform members and observers to benefit from being part of an EU-wide network and to learn from successful approaches tried and tested in other Member States.

Mutual learning will take the form workshops, specially developed toolkits, thematic reviews, seminars, meetings and cross-border projects with leading experts. The focus will initially be on exploring common problems like the phenomena of bogus self-employment and data sharing across borders.

Studies, surveys and an annual report will increase our knowledge and understanding of the issues. Providing this solid evidence base will help Member States tackle undeclared work in more efficient and effective ways.

Effective communications also play a role – such as sharing good practice and success stories and maintaining a web presence. Newsletters will also provide updates on new policy developments and the modernisation of laws and rules. Support for European information campaigns will help to increase awareness of the problem.

The Work Programme 2017-18 [has now been published](#).

#### Meet the Platform's new co-chairs



#### Yves Calvez, from the French Ministry of Labour, Employment, Vocational Training and Social Dialogue

"I am very pleased to participate with my colleague Renārs and the Commission in this very important project in the fight against illegal work. I will devote all my energies to help build solid foundations for this major European initiative."



#### Renārs Lūsis from the Latvian State Labour Inspectorate.

"I'm honoured and thankful for the new role entrusted to me as co-chair of the European Platform and will do my best to meet expectations".

A full list of the Platform members is [here](#)



#### Upcoming events



#### Mutual Assistance Project in Romania, 21-23 November 2016

In November, experts and Platform members will be assisting the Romanian Labour Inspectorate to improve its effectiveness in tackling undeclared work. Romania currently has one of the highest levels of undeclared work in the European Union.



#### First Platform seminar, 2nd December 2016

This seminar will be on developing a holistic approach to tackling undeclared work. The aim is to introduce Platform members to the different policy approaches and full range of policy measures available, along with the evidence of their effectiveness, and to hear about good practices across Member States.

#### Reports and publications

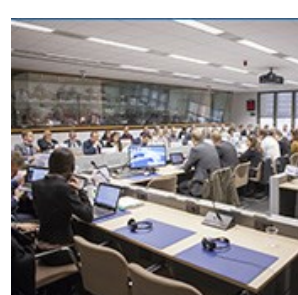
##### New factsheets

A comprehensive set of factsheets have been produced summarising the characteristics of undeclared work across all 28 Member States, as well as the institutions and policy responses currently used to address it. The factsheets, together with a synthesis report, are available [here](#)



##### Study on bogus self-employment

A preliminary study is being conducted to identify good practices amongst enforcement bodies in detecting and preventing bogus self-employment/disguised employment. This will be published in 2017.



#### Finally, we'd like to hear from you

If you have news to share or wish to contact the European Platform for Undeclared Work's secretariat please email [EMPL-JDW-PLATFORM@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EMPL-JDW-PLATFORM@ec.europa.eu)

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to other interested readers.

The opinions expressed in this e-mail do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission. Any information provided shall not be considered to be legally binding.

For any use of material which is not under the European Union copyright, permission must be sought directly from the copyright holder(s) indicated.

This newsletter has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>

Privacy statement, [here](#)