



## AGENDA

### Meeting of the European Platform tackling undeclared work

21–22 October 2021

Hotel Crowne Plaza Bratislava / ZOOM platform<sup>1</sup>

Interpretation provided from/to DE, EN, FR, IT and ES

#### **21 October 2021: Thematic day focused on COVID-19's impact on enforcement authorities' work and priorities**

9.30 – 10.00	<b>Registration / Connection and testing of technological support</b>
10.00 – 10.10	<p><b>Welcome and short introduction</b></p> <p>Document 1: Draft agenda</p> <p>Document 2: Input paper with guiding questions</p>
10.10 – 12.00	<p><b>Introductory presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts of COVID-19 on the informal economy in global perspective, ILO</li> <li>• COVID-19: implications for employment and working life, Eurofound</li> <li>• Abuse of short-term financial support schemes, Belgium</li> <li>• E-formalisation: applying new technologies in enforcement authorities to facilitate the transition to formality, ILO</li> <li>• Work today and in the future: challenges and opportunities identified by the Nordic labour inspectorates, Sweden</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
12.00 – 13.30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13.30 – 14.50	<b>Future of inspections: Workshops 1 and 2 in parallel</b>
	<p><b>Workshop 1: Changes in the planning and conduct of workplace inspections</b></p> <p><i>Introductory presentation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections on changes in the planning and conduct of physical workplace inspections during the COVID-19 pandemic, Portugal</li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Have your authorities undertaken greater risk assessment since the pandemic began of whether a physical inspection is necessary? If so, should this continue in the future?</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Connection details will be provided at a later stage.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ What other changes have you made to planning and conducting physical inspections which should continue in the future (e.g., hygiene, contact and time spent in workplace, digital recording)?</li> <li>➤ Are physical inspections vital and effective compared with alternative types of inspection, and if so, how can it be proven?</li> <li>➤ Is it worthwhile ELA holding events on: (1) “Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic for the organisation of onsite inspections” and/or (2) “Evaluating the effectiveness of onsite inspections in detecting and preventing undeclared work”?</li> </ul> <p><b>Workshop 2: Adopting alternative types of inspection to the physical inspection</b></p> <p><i>Introductory presentation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections on adopting alternative types of inspection to the physical inspection, Ireland</li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Is an objective of your inspectorate to conduct a specific number of physical inspections and is it necessary to change this?</li> <li>➤ When and for what purpose could alternative types of inspection to the physical on-site inspection be used?</li> <li>➤ Do your authorities combine onsite and other forms of inspection when inspecting a business (e.g., desk-top for initial meeting with compliant business, then physical inspection, and follow-up meeting at a distance)? Is this a way forward?</li> <li>➤ Have your authorities evaluated the benefits and/or effectiveness of different forms of inspection (e.g., the strike/success rate of documentary inspections at resolving complaints compared with physical visits)? Is better evidence required?</li> <li>➤ Could technicians be used for desk-top/documentary/postal inspections, with inspectors only doing the physical inspections? Is it possible to develop a career path (e.g., from working in the call centre, then doing desk-top inspections and then physical inspections) in your country?</li> <li>➤ Is it worthwhile ELA holding an event on “Complementary Inspection Types to Onsite Inspections”?</li> </ul>
14.50 – 15.20	<b>Coffee break</b>
15.20 – 16.40	<b>Future of inspectorates: Workshops 3 and 4 in parallel</b>
	<p><b>Workshop 3: Changes in ways inspectorates operate and new skills and competencies required</b></p> <p><i>Introductory presentation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections on changes in ways inspectorates work and new skills and competencies required by inspectorates, Sweden</li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Given the trend towards greater data analysis, what do you think about the feasibility of merging national Employment Registers to create a pan-EU</li> </ul>



	<p>Employment Register to detect and prevent undeclared work? What are the major challenges that will need to be overcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In line with Digital Compass 2030, what e-government solutions have your authority adopted to detect and prevent undeclared work? Should a Platform event be organised on “E-formalisation: digital solutions to prevent undeclared work”?</li> <li>➤ Are you supportive of the PLD suggestion that ELA could consider the development of a training programme for labour inspectors? Do you agree with the topics, skills and competencies proposed for such a programme suggested by the PLD group? Can you suggest additional topics and training this programme could provide?</li> </ul> <p><b>Workshop 4: Teleworking and other changes in the world of work and their implications for inspectorates</b></p> <p><i>Introductory presentation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections on teleworking and other changes in the world of work and their implications for inspectorates, Spain</li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <p>Questions to be answered by all participants in turn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With the growth of teleworking, has there been greater clarification of employers’ responsibilities and workers’ rights in your country?</li> <li>➤ Unless these responsibilities and rights are clarified, labour inspectors will have difficulties to address potentially ‘exploitative’ working conditions in relation to teleworking. To share learning, would it be useful to hold a Platform event on “Improving the regulation of teleworking”?</li> <li>➤ How is the issue of conducting inspections in households addressed in your country? Would it be useful for the Platform to share learning on how this has, and could be, resolved?</li> <li>➤ The issue of undeclared work and bogus self-employment on digital platforms has received much attention by the Platform. What is now required to take this forward?</li> </ul>
16.40 – 17.00	<b>Coffee break</b>
17.00 – 17.30	<b>Reporting back from working groups</b>
17.30	<b>End of day</b>



## **22 October 2021**

9.00 – 9.30	<b>Connection and testing of technological support</b>
9.30 – 9.35	<b>Opening remarks by the Chair of the Platform</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of the agenda</li> </ul>
9.35 – 9.40	<b>Adoption of outputs from extraordinary Platform meeting on 15 July and Platform plenary on 24-25 March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document 3: Operation conclusions from Platform meeting on 25 March</li> <li>• Document 4: Thematic report on third-country migration and undeclared work from Platform meeting on 24 March</li> <li>• Document 5: Summary of deliberations from Platform meeting on 15 July</li> </ul>
9.40 – 9.55	<b>Follow-up on the thematic discussion ‘COVID-19’s impact on enforcement authorities’ work and priorities’</b>
9.55 – 10.45	<b>Update on ELA tasks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerted and joint inspections</li> <li>• Analysis and risk assessment</li> <li>• Cooperation support and capacity building</li> </ul>
10.45 – 11.05	<b>Programming future Platform activities</b> Document 6: Note on the programming of future Platform activities
11.05 – 11.35	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.35 – 11.55	<b>Update by the Commission</b>
11.55 – 12.30	<b>Communication and awareness raising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campaign on seasonal workers</li> </ul>
12.30 – 12.45	<b>Platform activities and information points</b> Document 7: Draft mandate for the subworking group on regularisation initiatives for TCNs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subworking group</li> <li>• Demand-driven activities</li> <li>• Platform website and online repository</li> </ul>
12.45 – 13.00	<b>AOB</b>
13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch break</b>