

Public Letter.

From **Repartidores Unidos Movement**, created in 2020 to defend and improve the collaborative model with self-employed workers in the last mile delivery sector, we have been following with interest and concern the ongoing debates on the European Directive on Digital Platform Work.

The origin of our organisation is based on the defence, improvement and consolidation of our rights when working on Digital Platforms. As delivery workers who use these platforms, we believe it is crucial to be able to express our perspective regarding the proposed reform, as its regulations will directly affect us. With this in mind, **we consider that our voice should be taken into account.**

From our point of view, we believe that the Platform Work Directive runs the risk of repeating the mistakes we have seen in Spain after the experience with the so-called "Rider Law": the lack of participation and listening to the majority of affected workers, the forced reclassification of delivery workers as employees without evaluating other solutions, and the promotion of an unclear regulatory framework that produces more uncertainty than certainty. All of this is of great concern to us.

Considering that **the Spanish "Rider Law", which is intended to be used as a reference, did not achieve its purpose and objectives at all**, had even caused the opposite effect to what was expected, as it has been the exit of platforms from the market leaving thousands of delivery workers without work as well as significantly worsening the conditions of those who remain; we believe a modern, ambitious, realistic and in-depth regulation of the sector is necessary, therefore it is crucial that the European Guidelines are clear in their criteria. We believe that this sector, like all those based on work on Digital Platforms, is here to stay, hence we are aware that its real and effective regulation is urgent and cannot be postponed.

We believe that the solution to this situation is not another employment status, our experience has proven that this approach has been totally ineffective in solving our real problems and concerns, on the contrary, has deeply aggravated them. We believe that the solution is to ensure that our voice is heard and that our experience and interest in participating in our future are taken into account, thus, our claim has always been simple: **to be able to choose how and when we work, reinforce our protections, and have information about what matters and affects us, all this within the framework of maintaining incredibly open and flexible jobs**, which is one of the main reasons why most of us choose to use Digital Platforms for work.

With this in mind, we urge the institutions of the European Union and the Member States to listen to us, not to take hasty measures, let alone measures that are contrary to a significant improvement in the sector, especially for the conditions of us, the workers of Digital Platforms.



Gustavo Gaviria,
Repartidores Unidos Spokesperson
RepartidoresUnidos.org