The European Transport Workers' Federation and transport trade unions all over Europe call for

the European Commission the European Parliament the national governments of the EU Member States to STOP MODERN SLAVERY IN ROAD TRANSPORT IN EUROPE



HOW ?

By enforcing the existing EU rules and regulations in road transport:

- Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 meant to eradicate the letter box companies!
- Regulation (EC) 593/2008 (the so called 'Rome I Regulation') entitling professional drivers to the pay levels and working conditions of the host country irrespective of their nationality!
- Directive 96/71/EC on posting of workers entitling professional drivers to pay levels, working and social conditions of the host country when performing cabotage operations!

The future of our sector is in your hands.





Enforce Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 and eradicate letter box companies

Today letter box companies proliferate. They are the 'architect' behind social dumping and modern slavery in road transport. They foster employment practices which enable companies to circumvent their labour and social obligations and to employ their drivers on substandard pay and conditions. Letter box companies make it difficult to track down and challenge the real employer, by drivers claiming their unpaid wages, unemployment benefit or medical insurance. When properly enforced, Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 would lead to the eradication of scam employment practices in the sector. The Regulation is part of the so called "road package" and applies throughout the EU from December 2011.

Enforce Regulation (EC) No 593/2008 and eradicate distortions on the EU labour market and unfair competition in the road sector

Today professional drivers are massively recruited from EU Member States with lower pay and conditions and dispatched to other European countries from where they exercise their work much under the pay and conditions mandatory in the 'host' countries. This illegal use of cheap labour has created considerable distortions on the EU labour markets. When properly enforced, Regulation (EC) No 593/2008 would lead to the elimination of dumping practices, labour market distortions and unfair competition resulted from the illegal application of the 'country of origin' pay and conditions. The Regulation applies across all sectors including road transport from December 2009. Two rulings by the European Court of Justice – Koelzsch (15 March 2011) and Voogsgeerd (15 December 2011) – clarify the application of this regulation in the context specific to road transport.

Enforce Directive 96/71/EC on posting of workers and eradicate social dumping

While international transport by road was liberalised in 1992, a company can only perform road transport operations on the domestic market of another Member State (road cabotage) under strict rules and on a temporary basis. But similarly to international transport, cabotage activities are nowadays carried out with drivers from countries with low worker protection and low labour standards. A non-resident driver can be paid 10 times less than a local driver, for doing the same job. Also, non-resident drivers work longer – non registered hours – and their annual leave is not paid. When properly enforced, the Posting of workers directive will give any driver, irrespective of nationality, rightful access to minimum working and rest time, minimum pay rates, minimum annual leave of the country where work is carried out. The Posting of workers directive applies across all sectors and to road cabotage from December 1999.



