Dear Ana Carla and Fabien,

Below you will find a report from the meeting with MOVE EU.

Please let me know if you have any comments.

Thanks,

FLASH REPORT – Meeting between CAB SCHMIT and MOVE EU representatives – 24/09/2021

Participants:

European Commission
- Ana Carla PEREIRA, Employment and Social Adviser to Commissioner SCHMIT
- Fabien DELL, Member of Cabinet of Commissioner SCHMIT
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MOVE EU
- Aurelien POZZANA, Head of Public Policy for Western Europe and the EU – Bolt
- Claudia BREURE, Director of Public Affairs – FREE NOW
- Thanos MOYSIADIS, EU Public Policy - Uber

Main takeaways:

- MOVE EU presented the three companies which are part of the association: Bolt, Free Now and Uber and their services ranging from raid-hailing, delivery, micro-mobility, shared mobility, scooters etc. and explained that together they are present in most European MSs.
- MOVE EU expressed that they agree with the overall goal of the Commission to improve working conditions in platform work, they however strongly objected the rebuttable presumption as means to achieve this goal arguing that their drivers value their flexibility above all and do not want to become employees. They referred to a recent drivers’ survey.
- MOVE EU further questioned the court cases arguing that the drivers who are doing them, only try do receive retroactive payments from several platforms.
- MOVE EU proposed self-regulatory measures to tackle the issues instead of legislation, such as code of conduct, charters, or promoting dialogue with their drivers.
- MOVE EU also pointed to the competition within the sector for drivers who are in a position to choose for whom they want to work.
- Commission stressed the importance of a dialogue with different stakeholders in the context of the initiative, including platform companies.
- Commission further explained the formal two-stage consultation process of social partners, which finished on 15 September.
• Commission added that over 100 meetings were held with those who are directly affected by the initiative. Last two meetings with platform companies and platform workers’ associations took place on 20 and 21 September.
• Commission highlighted the role of control and subordination in determining the employment status and pointed to the need to create a level playing field between companies that provide protections to workers and those who don’t.
• Commission further pointed out that increasing the overall package for the drivers would make platform companies more competitive vis-à-vis scarce workforce.
• MOVE EU asked about the criteria determining the level of control and subordination. Commission replied that the criteria should be established based on the criteria used in various court cases, however the final set of criteria is still being discussed.
• In conclusion, Commission invited MOVE EU to share any available material on the topic of subordination or any figures on the expected impact on the number of FTEs that could be useful for the initiative. MOVE EU replied they would come back with any data individually.