Based on the COLLEEM II survey, Spain has the highest rate of platform workers within the EU - platform work is the main occupation for 2.6% of the population of working age. Other sources estimate that the number of people in the platform economy in Spain is far larger than previously believed and may amount to 12 million workers.

Based on UGT studies, a majority of delivery drivers in Madrid and Barcelona are migrants with Venezuelan or Pakistani roots.

In 2021, a law protecting delivery workers, known as the ‘Rider Law’, was passed. The law stipulates that delivery workers must be considered employees and are therefore entitled to basic rights, while representatives of workers must have access to the algorithms that organise workers’ activities.

The Spanish company Glovo has dominated the food delivery sector along with other international platforms, such as JustEat and UberEats. At present, the Glovo platform covers 20 countries in Europe. Recently, the company was acquired by Delivery Hero (Germany).

In 2020, an American online freelance service platform - Fiverr, launched its Spanish version as a new step in its international expansion.
As the result of the COVID 19 pandemic, there was a 10% increase in the number of freelancers registered via platforms between March and June 2020.

The UGT report «El trabajo en las plataformas digitales de reparto» estimates that delivery platforms save up to EUR 158 million per year: EUR 92 million in wages and EUR 76 million in social security contributions.

The Spanish unions have been very active in organising and advising workers. The UGT, in particular, has recorded a number of violations of workers’ rights, such as arbitrary and unplanned dismissals, union-related persecution, restriction of the right to strike, spying, unrecognised accidents and unpaid work.

In 2020, the Spanish Supreme Court (Judgment N. 805/2020) held that riders of a delivery company, Glovo, are employees and not self-employed workers or economically dependent self-employed workers. This Supreme Court judgment was crucial, as was adoption of the `Rider Law`.

While the `Rider Law` has been well received by social partners, several rider’s associations acknowledge that the new legislation does not completely resolve workers´ legal situation.

One collective agreement is in the process of being negotiated between the UGT and CCOO unions and JustEat. Since the company operates through «fleets», working conditions of the delivery workers depend on small, subcontracted companies.

Although the agreement has not yet been finalised, the JustEat platform has committed to hiring directly the entire workforce, providing the necessary materials for their work, e.g., vehicles, clothes, mobile phones, etc., and paying a fixed salary, overtime, night bonuses and holidays.