

# Online Platforms and Platform Work Belgium

- ✓ ✗ Legally binding definition of online platforms
- ✓ ✗ Specific register of online platforms
- ✓ ✗ Specific regulation applicable to online platforms
- ✓ ✗ Online platforms are considered to be employers

Based on the Royal Decree of 2017, **online platforms have to meet several conditions to receive official accreditation in Belgium.** The legal framework governing the platform economy is laid down in the Programme Law (2016), which establishes a favourable new tax regime for income obtained through platform work.



The fiscal authorities of Belgium recorded **18,458 platform workers in 2019**, who earned on average **EUR 102 per month** via platforms.



**18,458**

Belgian workers have access to more than **90 online labour platforms**, including 20 domestic ones.



tophelp.be

**RingTwice: Yoopies**

According to the 2018 Eurobarometer, platforms in the transport sector and food delivery services have dominated the Belgian market. However, the share of other platforms in the area of household and care tasks, such as **Ring Twice, Yoopies** and **Top Help**, has grown significantly in the last couple of years.

For example, **Ring Twice**, which was founded in 2013, is a Belgian platform specialising in household tasks. The platform has more than 36,000 service providers registered on it.



**Belgian trade unions are some of the strongest in the European Union when it comes to collective agreements and negotiating for workers.** To clarify the employment status of workers, trade unions from Belgium have supported platform workers in court cases and by submitting specific proposals to the Federal Public Service for Social Security.

The Belgian trade unions, the National Union of Employees (CNE) and the Transport and Communications (Transcom) division of the General Christian Trade Union (ACV) have supported the Belgian Couriers Collective (Collectif des Coursier-e-s /Koeriers-Kollektief), which was created by platform workers in 2016, after the food delivery platform Take Eat Easy went bankrupt.

**The General Labour Federation of Belgium (FGTB/ABVV) has launched an initiative for the protection of platform workers.** The initiative involves the creation of a network of platform workers online enabling them to obtain information on workers' rights, create groups and networks, and share their platform work experiences. The initiative also seeks to provide support in the form of legal advice and trade union representation.



In 2018, two rulings issued by the Administrative Commission for Employment Relationships stated that **Deliveroo couriers are to be considered as employees**, contrary to what was maintained and practiced by the company.

In 2021, the Administrative Commission for Employment Relationships issued a decision on an **Uber driver's working conditions, stating that they are incompatible with self-employed status.**



In **1 January 2023**, Belgium introduced a legal presumption of employment for platform workers in line with the EC Proposal on improving the working conditions of people working through digital labour platforms.