

**Statement from World Employment Confederation-Europe on the findings of the EU Sectoral Social Dialogue project: *Online talent platforms, labour market intermediaries and the changing world of work.***

“Modern and futureproof labour markets are characterised by diverse forms of work, including platform work which creates new job opportunities and increases participation and inclusion in the labour market. We need to ensure that people working through online talent platforms have adequate rights and social protections. Indeed, there are wide differences in the way that online workers are classified, the social security status they enjoy and in their access to training to enable them to keep their skills up-to-date.

As EU social partner representing the agency work sector, the World Employment Confederation-Europe is calling for a level playing field to secure fair competition between labour market intermediaries and address the rights of labour suppliers and their access to social protection. The World Employment Confederation-Europe believes that labour market intermediaries in both the online and offline world should be governed by rules and regulations that are adequately similar. Social innovation should be fostered by developing portable and transferable rights: policymakers should involve social partners where relevant to achieve that goal, getting inspiration from the agency work sector which has a long history of social innovation (such as dual learning schemes, individual learning accounts, training on the job etc.) .”

#### About the project

Over the past 18 months the EU sectoral social partners for temporary agency work have been conducting this joint project, which includes three main elements:

- A research report conducted by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and the Institute for Labor Economics (IZA)
- A stakeholder workshop
- A pan-European Conference gathering EU policy makers, international experts, online talent platforms and representatives of the temporary agency work sector. To be held on 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 at the NH Hotel Bloom,

The report analyses the online talent platform economy focusing on its size and structure, its regulatory framework, its access to social protection, its access to training and its impact on labour market transitions and labour market participation. Temporary agency work serves as the comparator for the analysis.

The report and executive summary are available on [www.weceurope.org](http://www.weceurope.org) and <http://www.uniglobalunion.org/regions/uni-europa/news>