

Brussels, 13th November 2020

Joint Contribution of European Social Dialog in the Postal Sector – Consultation on the Postal Services Directive

The recognised European social partners in the Postal Sector, namely PostEurop, UNI Europa Post & Logistics, and CESI agreed the following contribution to the evaluation of the Postal Services Directive:

- Universal Service Providers are committed to offer a sustainable, accessible, innovative, and qualitative postal service across the EU and beyond.
- Postal Service Directive needs to maintain its central focus on the universal service and its sustainable provision.
- The postal sector is already subject to the generally applicable European and national competition law regime and there is nothing to suggest that competition law enforcement tools are not sufficient. The Postal Services Directive as implemented at national level does not call for additional tools to promote competition in the liberalized postal sector.
- European legislators need to recognise the diversity of national markets, progress of digitization and user needs in the different member states. High level of subsidiarity and flexibility is needed for Member States to define universal service features to fit with local circumstances. The universal postal service and the service of general economic interest missions' definitions need to be confirmed at European level.
- The universal service obligations need to respect a principle of social, economic and environmental sustainability and raise the question of the funding of the universal service. Where prices for universal services do not or cannot cover the costs, public resources need to refund the universal service provider in the interests of society, its citizens, and communities.
- European social partners for the postal sector recognise that all postal sector workers should enjoy fair working conditions which support a sustainable, accessible and high-quality universal service provision. Social Partners are committed to strong social dialogue in the sector following national practices.
- The future regulatory framework should allow innovative solutions for the provision of universal services and offer services adapted to changing customer needs.
- The postal sector leads the way as a sector to reduce carbon emissions. The European social partners have endeavoured to develop strong expertise in green innovative solutions, which go beyond mere carbon emissions reductions. They understand the importance of the EU Green Deal and are willing to contribute to the EU Green recovery.

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Jurgen Joos
Interims-Chair Social Dialogue Committee Post
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A blue ink signature, likely of José Oliveira, featuring a large, stylized 'J' followed by a series of connected loops.

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