



Press statement

(March 11th 2021)

As the Spanish Association for the Digital Economy, we want to express our deep disagreement with the regulation proposal on digital platforms, also referred to as the “Riders Law”, that has just been presented by the Spanish Government.

We believe the approach of this regulation only creates unnecessary uncertainty in a context in which digital companies and business digitalisation have proven to be key to sustain the economy and protect jobs.

At Adigital, we have always been aware of the need to review current regulations in the face of new business models and we have reached out to public administrations to facilitate understanding of the new challenges and opportunities they represent on both an economic and social level.

In the case of digital delivery platforms, it should be noted that several models coexist in our country. It is therefore important to promote intelligent and flexible regulation; capable of offering greater protection to workers without becoming a barrier to innovation and the competitiveness of our economy.

In its current guise, the Spanish Government’s proposal will only generate uncertainty in the sector. In fact, this regulation will not only affect digital delivery platforms that operate with autonomous collaborators, but it will also impact on all those companies whose activity has come to depend on or has been driven by them, such as restaurants and retail stores.

This regulation also enhances legal uncertainty by demanding that digital platforms disclose their algorithms, which violates their commercial trade secrets and intellectual property. Again, this would not only affect digital delivery platforms, but other companies as well. On this matter, we believe the impact of this obligation on the much-needed digitalisation of Spanish companies must urgently be reassessed.

We are confident that a proper solution can still be reached to avoid the irreversible damage to a sector that is contributing so much to the Spanish economy and providing a service of great value. It is essential that Spain joins the international debate on the regulation of platform work instead of regulating the issue unilaterally, by discriminating against a specific business model.

We once again extend an offer to work together with public administrations, companies and the rest of the actors involved, toward the design of an intelligent and modern regulation that not only protects workers but does so without stopping innovation or negatively impacting on the economic and social transformation of our country.

About Adigital

Adigital is the Spanish Digital Economy Association. Formed by a network of more than 500 associates from key sectors, it aims to promote and support the development of the digital economy in Spain through the development of information society services, ecommerce, digital marketing and communication, digital content, mobile applications and other related activities. Together with Autocontrol, Adigital is a partner of Confianza Online, a quality seal to which more than 2,000 companies adhere and present in more than 2,600 sites. More information at www.adigital.org

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