



Collaborative economy

**European Economic and Social Committee
5-12-2016**

DG GROW/E3

Part of the DSM strategy

2015

2016

Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe

Legislative proposals for simple and effective cross-border **contract rules** for consumers and businesses



A wide ranging review to prepare legislative proposals to tackle unjustified **geo-blocking**

Competition sector inquiry into **e-commerce**, relating to the online trade of goods and the online provision of services

Legislative proposals for a reform of the **copyright** regime

Review of the **Satellite and Cable Directive**

Review of the **Regulation on Consumer Protection Cooperation**

Measures in the area of **parcel delivery**



Legislative proposals to reduce the administrative burden on businesses arising from different **VAT** regimes

Creating the right conditions for digital networks and services to flourish

Comprehensive analysis of the role of **platforms** in the market including **illegal content** on the Internet



Legislative proposals to reform the current **telecoms rules** and the **Audiovisual Media Services Directive**

Review of the **e-Privacy Directive**



Establishment of a **Cybersecurity contractual Public-Private Partnership**

Maximising the growth potential of the Digital Economy



Adoption of a **Priority ICT Standards Plan** and extending the European Interoperability Framework for public services

Initiatives on data ownership, **free flow of data** (e.g. between cloud providers) and on a **European Cloud**

New **e-Government Action Plan** including an initiative on the 'Once-Only' principle and an initiative on mandatory interconnection of business registers

European Agenda for the Collaborative Economy

Single Market Strategy:

"The Commission will develop a European agenda for the collaborative economy, including guidance on how existing EU law applies to collaborative economy business models. It will assess possible regulatory gaps and monitor the development of the collaborative economy."

Objectives:

- Promote the balanced development of the collaborative economy
- Facilitate innovation, competition and entrepreneurship opportunities while ensuring compliance with existing regulatory framework
- Fight legal uncertainty & regulatory fragmentation in the single market

Legal guidance & policy recommendations

Key Issues:

- When are market access requirements (e.g. business authorisation and licensing requirements) justified?
- When does employment law apply?
- Which measures must be taken to protect users & where does liability lie?
- What taxation rules apply?
- How to ensure trust of users and providers?

=> *Communication is starting point for further work: several DGs are working on specific issues of importance to the collaborativ economy: Social Pillar, urban transport regulation, liability etc.*

Collaborative economy - size and growth

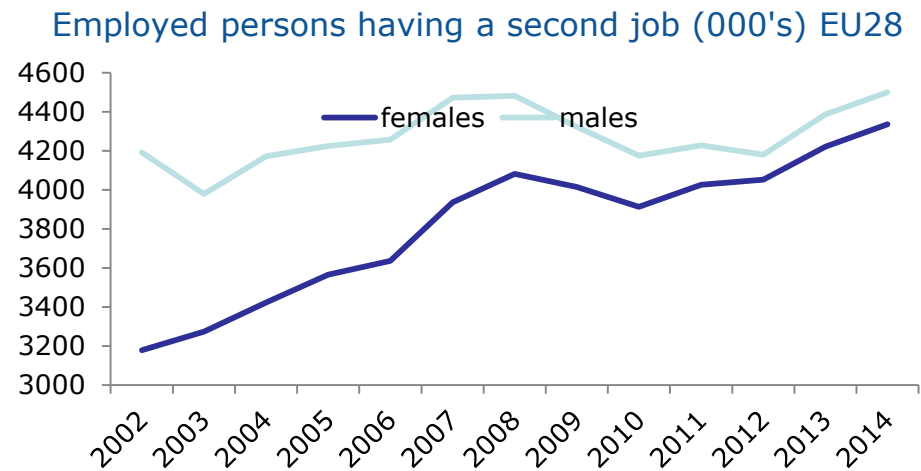
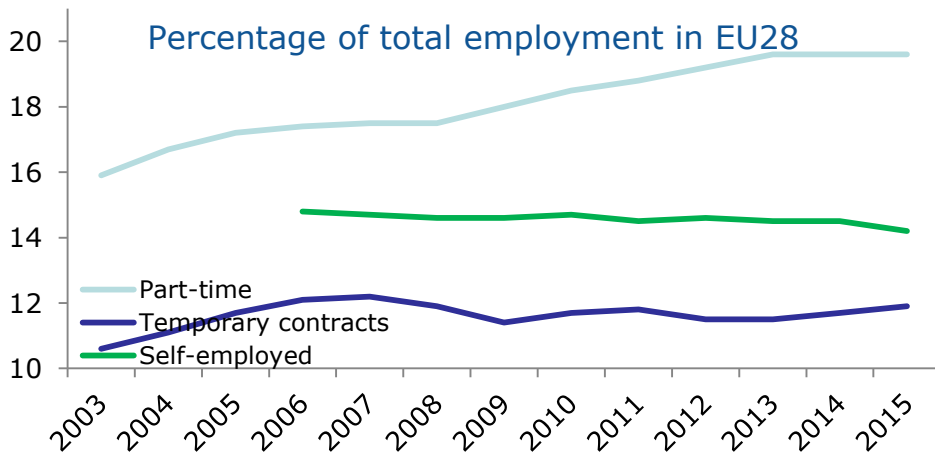
€28 billion in total transactions in 2015, €3.6 billion in platform revenue

Figure 2: Revenues and transaction values facilitated by collaborative economy platforms in Europe (% of total, 2015)



Characteristics of employment

- Created an estimated 100,000-200,000 jobs in the EU
- Mainly flexible, part-time, employment
- In-line with longer-running trend of more part-time, flexible employment in the EU.
- Not clear whether the collaborative economy is having a large impact. In the US, there is a slight counter-trend toward more permanent employment.



Monitoring framework

- *Economic development*
 - Growth, employment, etc.
- *Regulatory environment*
 - level of market access requirements, ease of providing labour/skills, public administration, etc.
- *Indicator(s) on each MS to be included in the Single Market Scoreboard*
- *Assessing aspects of the business and regulatory environment which affect the collaborative economy.*
- *Monitoring framework will cover all MS and several services sectors.*
- *Covering themes such as ability to provide labour, services and facilitating the payment of taxation.*
- *Will include dedicated studies, workshops and expert groups.*