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The European Parliament (EP) has backed proposals to prevent platform companies from forcing workers into false self-employment and denying them rights to minimum wages, holiday and sick pay, and a secure employment contract. In recent years platform companies have lost a string of court cases over false self-employment, with the latest in the Netherlands where judges ruled “the legal relationship between Uber and these drivers meets all the characteristics of an employment contract.” The EP report supports a rebuttable presumption of an employment relationship for platform companies and reversal of the burden of proof. It also argues that establishing a new EU so-called third status between worker and self-employed person should not be considered. The proposals echo those made by the ETUC in its [reply](#) to the second stage of the European Commission’s consultation on action over working conditions in platform work.

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