

# Undeclared Work

## What are the risks?

### Definition of Undeclared Work

Undeclared work is when **an individual doesn't work in accordance with the rules** fixed by the law. No formal European definition exists, but the Commission of Undeclared Work stated that:

“ *Undeclared work' is therefore defined here as any paid activities that are lawful as regards their nature but not declared to the public authorities...criminal activities would be excluded, as would work not covered by the usual regulatory framework.* ”

(European Commission, 1998)

### What sectors are most affected by undeclared work?

The sectors most affected by undeclared work in the EU are (in order): repairs or renovation, gardening, cleaning, babysitting, and restaurant service.<sup>2</sup>



Repairs or Renovation



Gardening



Cleaning



Babysitting



Restaurant Service

(Eurobarometer, 2014)

### Consequences of undeclared work on society



Fosters exclusion and job insecurity-not protected by labour laws



Encourages tax evasion - the state does not collect social security contributions



Promotes illicit enrichment - illegally acquired money may finance other illegal activities

(European Commission, 1998)

### How can someone prevent themselves from engaging in undeclared work?



Employees and Migrants must fulfil the legal requirements for work as determined by the country in which they reside. Verify that you are legally allowed to work and make sure that the employer is acting legally and the work contract is lawful. In case of doubts, seek advice at employment centres.