## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE LABOUR IS NOT A COMMODOTY:

WORKSHOP: OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE AGE OF DIGITALISATION

"Prevention of labour risks and the new labour market: some key issues"

Lourdes Mella Méndez

Professor of Labour Law and Social Security

University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain)

## Prevention of labour risks and the new labour market

- First premise: health and safety is a basic right for all workers.
- Spanish Constitution: "principle governing social and economic policy".
- > Spanish legal system: Law 31 of 1995, on the prevention of labour risks: the employer's duty of protection is designed in a broad sense and dynamically.
  - Art. 14 Law
- New technology introduces 2 significant changes:
  - ▶ A) Modernisation of the production system and work tools
  - B) New forms of work
- ▶ A) Modernisation of the production system and work tools: industrial and collaborative robots
  - ▶ ILO Convention 119 of 1963; Directive 42/2006/EC
- 2 aspects are important:
- International technical standards: ISO, UNE
- -The precautionary principle
  - ► European Parliament Resolution of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## Prevention of labour risks and the new labour market

- ▶ B) New ways of working: through digital platforms.
  - ► European Parliament Resolution of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017
  - ▶ Several risk factors: lack of regulations, type of work, work equipment, place of service
- How is prevention organised against those risks in Spain?
  - ▶ It depends on the legal nature of the work activity
  - If the worker is considered "an employed person": some adjustments
    - ► Art. 24.1 Law of prevention
    - ► The concept of workplace is key
  - If the worker is considered "a self-employed person"
  - ▶ Rights and duties of a traditional self-employed person in relation to the prevention of risks in the Spanish legal system
    - ► Art. 3.1 and art. 24.1 Law of prevention
    - Article 4.3 and art. 8 Autonomous Work Statute

## Prevention of labour risks and the new labour market

- ► The role of the client in prevention
  - Depends on the place of work
- ► ILO Centenary Declaration for the future of work
  - Protection for all workers
- Main conclusion
  - ▶ Reinterpretation of traditional legislation
  - Academia and experts

► Thank you very much!