



## Press Release

### **THE FFPI joins the Platform for Postal Reform, a new European initiative urging the full liberalisation of postal services**

Brussels, 11 October 2001 – The Free and Fair Post Initiative, FFPI, has joined the Platform for Postal Reform, a group of 39 organisations including postal operators, competitors, users, consumer groups, industry associations from all corners of the EU, calling for the adoption of a clear final date for the full liberalisation of postal services in Europe.

In view of the 15 October EU Telecom Council, the call in favour of a clear final date for the liberalisation of postal services in Europe was prompted by the fact that many EU decision-makers seem to ignore that a total opening of the postal market is supported by a large number of organisations and companies in Europe.

*“It is impressive that the message of the Platform has received such a large and diverse support. This is a clear demonstration that there exists a broad convergence of positions to agree on a final date for liberalisation of postal services that cannot be overlooked by the EU institutions. It is essential that this view is taken in serious consideration by Member States at their Telecom Council meeting on October 15. Otherwise a unique opportunity to boost growth, employment and to provide more and better services for consumers and users will be lost”,* said Philippe Bodson, President of the FFPI.

The Platform for Postal Reform is supported by the following participants:

ABC - Antwerp Business Centre ; BCA-Belgian Courier Association ; BDI-German Confederation of Industry ; BvDP- Bundesverband Deutscher Postdienstleister e.V. ; CCIB-KHNB – Brussels Chamber of Commerce ; CEB - Confédération des Expéditeurs Belges ; Confederation of Swedish Enterprise ; DPAG - Deutsche Post World Net ; EEA - The European Express Association ; EMOTA-European Mail Order Trade Association ; ENPA-European Newspaper Association ; EPC-European Publishers Council ; EuroCommerce ; FAEP-European Federation of Magazine Publishers ; FEB-Federation Entreprises Belges ; Fedma - Federation of European Direct Marketing ; FEPE- Federation of European Envelop Manufacturers ; FETRA - Association Belge des Fabricants d' Enveloppes ; FFPI - The Free and Fair Post Initiative ; IDMA-Irish Direct Marketing Associatio ; IMP-International Masters Publishers ; MEDEF - Mouvement des Entreprises de France ; NKVK - Nederlandse Kamer van Koophandel voor België en Luxemburg ; POST.at - Austrian Post ; Posten Sverige - Swedish Post ; POSTI - Finnish Post ; Postwatch ; PUG - Postal Users Group ; SAV-Beroepsorganisatie van de Vlaamse Goederentransportondernemers en Logistieke Dienstverleners ; Svensk Handel - Swedish Federation of Trade ; TLF - Transport et Logistique de France ; TPG - TNT Post Group ; Tyonantajaliitto Alliansi - Finnish Employers Organisation ; UEAPME-Union Européenne de l'Artisanat et des Pétites et Moyennes Entreprises ; UNIZO-Unie van Zelfstandige Ondernemers ; Vereniging van Vlaamse Kamers van Koophandel ; VEV - Vlaams Economisch Verbond ; VNO-NCW Dutch Employers Federation ; VÖI - Vereinigung der Österreichischen Industrie

The Free and Fair Post Initiative (FFPI) is a unique European initiative that brings together users and competitors of the public postal operators who strongly believe in the benefit of a liberalised and more competitive postal market. Through its membership, the FFPI currently represents more than 7,1 million companies. The FFPI key objectives are to secure a final date for full liberalisation of postal services that should be in 2007 at the latest and a fair playing field in the postal sector to prevent public postal monopolies to turn into private ones. For more information, visit the FFPI Web site [www.freefairpost.com](http://www.freefairpost.com) or contact Axel Rindborg. Tel: 32-2-777.05.35. Fax: 32-2-777.05.36. E-mail : [info@freefairpost.com](mailto:info@freefairpost.com)