

German court lifts ban on Uber car pick-up service

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A customer uses an app for the popular car pick-up service Uber in Berlin, in a photo taken on April 24, 2014

The controversial but popular car pick-up service Uber claimed a victory in Germany on Tuesday when a court threw out an injunction levelled against its operations in Europe's biggest economy.

The regional court in Frankfurt ruled that there was no need for an urgent temporary ban against the San Francisco-based firm, which allows passengers to summon cars using an app on their smartphones at prices that significantly undercut rival taxi companies.

The decision means Uber can resume operating legally in Germany, but must await a final ruling on a complaint by the taxi federation as to whether it has the necessary permits to run a business.

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