

**Question for written answer E-002741/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Olga Sehnalová (S&D)

Subject: Mutual recognition of medical opinions in EU Member States

Despite the fact that EU rules on the coordination of social security state that it is the Member States themselves that are authorised to decide who is covered under their national provisions, the EU is setting common social security rules to protect citizens' rights.

According to Article 5 of the consolidated version of Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems, documents issued by the institution of a Member State showing the position of a person should be accepted by the institutions of another Member State for the purposes of coordinating social security systems.

However, cases have occurred in which the relevant institutions of the Member States do not recognise each other's medical opinions, resulting sometimes in the refusal of disability benefits in another Member State.

Is the Commission aware of the problem of inadequate mutual recognition of medical opinions in EU Member States?

Is the Commission considering the adoption of legislative measures to ensure that a medical opinion issued in one Member State is valid throughout the EU?

As is stated in Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems, a system of coordination should be drawn up which respects the specific characteristics of national legislation, in particular as regards recognition of invalidity and aggravation thereof.

What steps is the Commission taking to develop a system of coordination for the recognition of invalidity and aggravation thereof?