

**Question for written answer P-000794/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Fernando Ruas (PPE)**

Subject: Delays in the calculating of working time for pension purposes

In Portugal, Social Security has been remarkably slow to issue documents concerning the calculating for pension purposes of periods of service. For people who have spent their entire careers in Portugal, on average, it takes Social Security roughly a year to issue those documents. According to Rádio e Televisão de Portugal (RTP), 60 000 cases concerning old-age pensions alone are pending in Portugal.

In recent days, delays of 18 months (or even 3 years in some cases) have come to light in the media in Social Security's handling of requests for the E205 form, from Portuguese citizens who have emigrated to Luxembourg and asked to receive their pension there. There are similar reports concerning citizens who have emigrated to other Member States as well as other requests, such as family allowances and unemployment benefits.

In a union of peoples and states in which free movement of persons is one of our greatest achievements and, for people who have reached the end of a long working life (or for those with a disabling illness), these delays are completely unacceptable.

1. Is the Commission aware of these issues?
2. How can it help to shorten those periods, which we consider completely unacceptable?