

**Question for written answer E-009288/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Social security delays when transferring from one EU country to another

There are shortcomings in the EU Member States' current social security practices when an individual moves from one EU country to another.

In EU countries, withdrawal from the social security scheme may take place relatively quickly when a person moves out of a country. However, when a person transfers to another EU Member State, social security schemes do not always manage to approve the person's membership of their scheme without delays.

That being so, there may be an unjustifiably long gap between leaving one EU country's social security scheme and joining another's, during which time the person concerned is not covered by any country's social security scheme.

Several Member States, for example, promise that joining their social security scheme will take no longer than six weeks.

At present EU citizens moving from one Member State to another may be placed in a difficult position if they do not belong to any social security scheme.

1. How is the Commission monitoring this situation?
2. What measures does the Commission propose to take to remedy the situation?
3. Does the Commission propose to expand the coverage of the European Health Insurance Card in such situations?