

**Question for written answer E-004423/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Family benefits

A Member State which is required to apply Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 does not have to pay family benefits if the State has secondary competence in accordance with Articles 67 and 68 and the parent living with the child in that State only enjoys rights on the basis of residence and the other parent is living and employed in another State which therefore has primary competence. The primary competent State pays the full family benefit. The secondary competent State must pay a differential supplement only if the level of its family benefit is higher than that of the primary competent State.

What does the EU intend to do to remedy this unjust state of affairs which is to the detriment of primary competent States?

When does the EU plan to follow the recommendations of the Austrian Court of Auditors, which in section 18(2) of its report ¹ considered a simplification of the rules for coordination to be desirable, a conclusion which was also reached by a study at EU level?

¹ <https://www.rechnungshof.gv.at/rh/home/home/Familienbeihilfe.pdf>.