

**Question for written answer E-001217/2020**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Cindy Franssen (PPE)**

**Subject:** Social security contributions of seasonal workers in agriculture and horticulture

In agriculture and horticulture, much use is made of seasonal workers from other EU Member States as temporary workers at harvest time.

Many such workers work for less than three months in Belgium, but work the rest of the year in their country of origin and keep that as their country of residence. Under EU legislation (Social Security Coordination Regulation), the work done and the social security contributions paid are therefore supposed to be declared in that country.

For many small to medium-sized farmers and horticulturalists, however, it is not administratively feasible to declare work done by seasonal workers and wages paid to them in their country of origin. They do not have their own personnel department, have no knowledge of the languages in which the declaration would have to be made, do not have professional service providers available, and employ workers from various Member States.

1. Does the Commission acknowledge this problem?
2. Does the Commission know whether the rules on social security contributions for seasonal workers are correctly applied in all EU Member States?
3. What measures is the Commission taking or planning in order to simplify procedures for declaring work done by and wages paid to seasonal workers in order to facilitate free movement in the internal market for seasonal workers and minimise the administrative burden for farmers and horticulturalists?