

Question for written answer E-003049/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Miriam Lexmann (PPE)

Subject: Working from home from another Member State and coordination of social security systems

The Covid-19 pandemic, during which working from home became the norm for many months, has shown that many professions can be carried out remotely using digital tools. Although employers mostly allowed homeworking within a single Member State, due to the set-up of European social security coordination rules, this was not possible for those who wanted to work from home in a Member State other than that of the employer. This was most often the case for workers who found work outside their Member State of origin or in which they have family ties. These workers were separated from their families for months during the pandemic due to border restrictions and the inability to work from another Member State. Working from home, with a favourable legal context, would not only make it possible to cope with emergencies such as the pandemic, but would also, in normal times, make it much easier to achieve a work-life balance, combat regional depopulation and demographic change, which are among the priority policies, and ultimately encourage EU citizens to benefit from the possibilities of free movement.

1. Does the Commission plan to amend the rules on social security coordination to allow working from home from a Member State other than that of the employer?
2. Does the Commission plan other initiatives to promote working from home in the light of the lessons learned from the pandemic?