

**Question for written answer E-001690/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Cross-border social security fraud in the EU

The Commission's 2021 report entitled 'Fraud and error in the field of EU social security coordination' analyses irregularities in the current EU system of social security coordination. The report indicates that only a few specific references to fraud and error are made in Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and concludes that there remains a lack of data exchange between Member States on relevant factors influencing the entitlement to benefits.

There seems to be little to no data on the issue of cross-border social security fraud (where individuals unduly receive social security benefits in two or more Member States). This lack of coordination and lack of adequate reporting on social security fraud results in individuals unduly benefiting from cross-border social benefits, but the extent to which this occurs seems unclear.

1. Can the Commission give an estimate of the prevalence of cross-border social security fraud and the total financial losses incurred as a result of it?
2. The report highlights that Member States are failing to provide data and that current statistics are insufficient. What steps is the Commission taking to improve information sharing and prevent cross-border social security fraud?