

**Question for written answer E-003317/2022/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Pascal Arimont (PPE)

Subject: German sickness and long-term care insurance – Regulation (EC) No. 883/2004

A German citizen living in Belgium contributed to the German sickness and long-term care insurance during his active career in Germany. Once he retired, he stopped paying into the German insurance schemes because he is a member of a Belgian health insurance fund. As his wife was suffering from a serious illness, he applied for a care allowance. He was informed by the German sickness insurance scheme that, on the basis of his wife's Belgian nationality, of the insurance cover in Belgium, and of his residence in Belgium, his wife is insured as a frontier worker and is entitled to mutual benefits assistance (Leistungsaulhilfe) from Germany. This takes the form of care benefits in kind rather than a care allowance, as the care allowance system does not exist in Belgium. The decision makes reference to Regulation (EC) No 883/2004.

1. Is the Commission aware of such situations in which a care allowance cannot be paid?
2. Is it correct that entitlements accrued in the German long-term care insurance scheme over the course of one's professional life cease to exist after retirement and withdrawal from that insurance in the case of frontier workers (insured in the State of residence)?
3. If so, does the Commission intend to reconsider the current approach?