

Ms. Agnieszka Dziemianowicz-Bąk
Minister of Family, Labour and Social Policy
of the Republic of Poland
Nowogrodzka 1/3/5
00-513 Warsaw, Poland

Subject: Progress on the Reform of the Regulation on the Coordination of Social Security Systems

Dear Minister Dziemianowicz-Bąk,

On behalf of the European Parliament's negotiating team, I welcome the commitment of the Polish Presidency to further work on the revision of the regulation on social security coordination and to cooperate with the European Parliament in order to find a solution that would work for both co-legislators.

Given that the Polish Presidency is already halfway through its term, we are concerned that further delays will make it increasingly difficult to finalise an agreement within a reasonable timeframe. We would like to ask the Polish Presidency to accelerate efforts to reach a balanced agreement.

To this end, we urge the Polish Presidency to engage in preliminary discussions with the European Parliament regarding possible compromises before presenting a new mandate to the Council. This approach would enhance the chances of a successful outcome and prevent unnecessary backtracking on points already extensively debated under previous presidencies.

On the specific question of the construction sector and the exemption of postings of less than three days from prior notification obligations, our position remains firm. We have extensively studied the issue, including new reports from the European Labour Authority, the European Construction Industry Federation and the trade unions, and Business Europe, all of which confirm the high-level risk of fraud in the construction sector. The European Parliament has already demonstrated flexibility by agreeing to the three-day exemption, but this was always contingent on excluding the construction sector. Any deviation from this condition would be irresponsible given the risks involved.

Regarding the export of unemployment benefits, we are deeply concerned about the Polish Presidency's proposal to reduce the duration from ten to six months for workers who have contributed for at least 24 months in a country of employment. Such a measure would unfairly penalize individuals who have made long-term contributions and contributed to stabilising national social security systems. We firmly believe that individuals who have contributed significantly should be entitled to longer export periods, and we urge the Presidency to align its approach with this principle.

Additionally, the European Parliament maintains its commitment to ensuring fair conditions for cross-border workers, including seasonal workers. We have consistently advocated for a fairer affiliation period, proposing three uninterrupted months and/or six interrupted months. While we acknowledge the challenges in the Council, we believe a compromise is achievable.

Regarding the question of pluriactivity, the European Parliament wants to make sure to find a balanced approach, which does not facilitate the creation or use of letterbox companies.

The European Parliament has demonstrated in previous negotiations that differing positions can be reconciled if all parties genuinely seek an agreement. The European Parliament stands ready to engage constructively, but we need clear indications that tangible progress is being made towards a compromise that takes into account the positions of both co-legislators.

We look forward to your response and to working together towards a solution that upholds the rights and protections of European workers while ensuring the efficiency, simplification and modernisation of our social security coordination system in Europe.

Yours sincerely,



Gabrielle Bischoff

EP Rapporteur