

**Priority question for written answer P-002036/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Clarifications on unemployment benefit provisions in the provisional agreement on the coordination of social security systems

On 24 April 2026, the co-legislators reached an agreement on the revision of the rules on the coordination of social security systems (Regulation (EC) No 883/2006).

The agreement raises serious questions, especially for the EU's 1.8 million cross-border workers¹, which includes 520 000 French residents², 252 000 German residents and 230 000 Polish residents³. There is a lack of clarity surrounding some of the provisions on unemployment benefits and related rights in particular, raising concerns as to their practical applications.

The new Article 65(3a) appears to provide that once a worker who worked in their country of residence and completed periods of insurance before becoming a cross-border worker has exhausted their unemployment benefits in the competent Member State, they can apply for benefits, minus any benefits already paid out to them, in their country of residence, if these rights remain available to them.

In view of this:

1. Is the above interpretation of Article 65(3a) correct?
2. Will workers be able to undergo professional retraining in their country of residence when linguistic barriers limit access to this in the competent Member State?
3. Will cross-border workers be required to register with the employment services of the competent Member State, even where those services are very far away from their place of residence?

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¹ <https://www.reif-eu.org/actualite/rapport-annuel-sur-la-mobilite-intra-europeenne/>.

² <https://www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org/themes/emploi/>.

³ European Commission, Annual Report on Intra-EU Labour Mobility 2024, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2025, <https://doi.org/10.2767/2077850>.