

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002791/26
to the Commission
Christine Anderson (ESN)
(6 July 2026)**

Subject: Management and control mechanisms for family-related social benefits

Member States continue to face administrative challenges when checking eligibility conditions for family-related social benefits in cross-border situations.

1. To what extent can Member States beef up control mechanisms regarding the habitual residence, schooling, gainful employment or actual residence of dependent children?
2. Does the Commission support an expansion of digital administrative cooperation and cross-border data cross-checks on this matter?
3. Has the Commission identified shortcomings in the current framework of administrative cooperation under Regulation (EC) No 883/2004?

Submitted: 6.7.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(13 August 2026)**

The principle of equal treatment laid down in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 ⁽¹⁾ on the coordination of social security systems prohibits Member States from imposing on EU mobile workers who have applied for family benefits any additional requirements which are not imposed on their own nationals.

The Commission promotes digitalisation and the electronic exchange of information to facilitate the correct application of the EU social security coordination rules.

The Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information system supports such cross-border exchanges in the field of family benefits. Furthermore, within the framework of the Fair Labour Mobility Package ⁽²⁾, the Commission intends to propose additional measures, notably the European Social Security Pass, to facilitate exchanges of social security information via digital means in view of a proper application and enforcement of the social security coordination rules.

Pursuant to Article 76 of the above-mentioned Regulation, national authorities and institutions shall lend one another their good offices and have the duty of mutual information and cooperation to ensure the correct implementation of the regulation.

The Commission is not aware of systematic shortcomings related to administrative cooperation between institutions in the field of cross-border applications for family benefits.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/883/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ Commission Work Programme 2026, COM(2026) 870 final.