



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Labour Mobility and International Affairs  
Social Security Coordination

Brussels  
EMPL.E.2/JT/ib/Ares(2024)8151886

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**Subject: Study on ‘Facilitating free movement through further digitalisation in social security coordination’**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Commission’s **Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion** has commissioned Ecorys and partners IDC and Visionary Analytics to carry out a **study on ‘Facilitating free movement through further digitalisation in social security coordination’**.

This study examines the possibly required medium/longer-term developments in the digitalisation of social security coordination to address the existing problems in individuals’ exercise of social security rights in other European countries. In the light of the ongoing European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS) initiative, the study will assess technical and policy options to digitalise the request, issuance, storage and verification of entitlement documents. It will further assess remaining problems not addressed by already ongoing or envisaged initiatives such as EESSI and ESSPASS, highlighting areas where further action is needed.

Between September 2024 and September 2025, the study team will undertake primary research activities to collect quantitative and qualitative evidence. Data will be collected either on a declarative basis with facts and figures provided by responding parties or by analysing and correlating the information received. These research activities will include data requests addressed to relevant national authorities, the ongoing pilots, and other stakeholders representing different views and interests relevant for this study. The study relies on interviews, surveys, and workshops to gather these insights. Data collected for the purpose of this study will be used to support decision and policy making at EU level. It will not be used to profile a specific institution or country.

**We kindly ask you to support the consultation process when you are contacted by the consortium’s research team for the necessary arrangements. Your input is essential to gathering a robust evidence base, which is an absolute necessity for possible future EU policies or support actions in this respect. It is also an ideal opportunity to share your point of view and experience to support the continued efforts to digitalise cross-border social security processes.**

Should you need any further information regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact the Project Manager, Andreas Pauer ([Andreas.Pauer@ecorys.com](mailto:Andreas.Pauer@ecorys.com)) and the Project Coordinator, Thomas Kruger ([Thomas.Kruger@ecorys.com](mailto:Thomas.Kruger@ecorys.com)) from Ecorys or Simona Lazzaro ([simona.lazzaro@ec.europa.eu](mailto:simona.lazzaro@ec.europa.eu)) and, if not available, Marine Wagner ([marine.wagner@ec.europa.eu](mailto:marine.wagner@ec.europa.eu)) from the European Commission.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Electronically signed

Jörg Tagger  
Head of Unit