

# Public consultation on a European Labour Authority and a European Social Security Number

## 1. About you

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**You are replying:**

- As an individual
- In your professional capacity (including self-employed) or on behalf of an organisation

**First Name**

**Last Name**

**Email Address**

**Country of residence**

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands

- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other

**Please specify**

**What is your status:**

- Employed
- Unemployed
- Self-employed
- Student
- Retired
- Other

**Please specify**

**Do you have any experience in studying, working, or living in another European country?**

- In the past
- Currently
- No, but I am considering in the near future [e.g. 1-2 years]
- No, and I do not envisage it

**Your contribution:**

*(Note that, whatever option chosen, your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under Regulation (EC) N°1049/2001)*

- can be published with your personal information** (I consent to the publication of all information in my contribution in whole or in part including my name or my organisation's name, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication)
- can be published provided that you remain anonymous** (I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent the publication.

**Respondent's first name**

**Respondent's last name**

**Respondent's professional email address**

**Name of the organisation**

**Postal address of the organisation**

**Type of organisation (please select the option that fits best):**

- Private enterprise (including self-employed)
- Professional consultancy, law firm, self-employed consultant
- Trade, business or professional association
- Non-governmental organisation, platform or network
- Research and academia
- Churches and religious communities
- Regional or local authority (public or mixed)
- International or national public authority
- Other

**Please specify**

**How many employees or members does your company / organisation have?**

- More than 250 employees (Large enterprise)
- Between 50 and 250 employees (Medium-sized enterprise)
- Between 10 and 49 employees (Small enterprise)
- Less than 10 employees (Micro enterprise)
- Self-employed (Micro enterprise)

**Please specify the type of organisation:**

- Chamber of commerce
- Business organisation
- Trade Union
- Representative of professions or crafts

- Other

**In which sector are you active?**

- Agriculture
- Manufacturing industry
- Construction
- Business services
- Personal services
- Transport and logistics
- Other
- Not applicable

**Please specify**

**Please specify the type of organisation:**

- Think tank
- Research institution
- Academic institution

**Please specify the type of organisation:**

- Regional public authority
- Local public authority
- Public-private sub-national organisation
- Network of public sub-national authorities
- Other

**Please specify:**

**Please specify the type of organisation:**

- Intergovernmental organisation
- EU institution, body or agency
- National parliament
- National government
- National public authority or agency

**Does your organisation have any experience in EU cross-border activities?**

- Yes, in the past
- Yes, currently
- No, but we are considering it in the near future [e.g. 1-2 years]
- No, and we do not envisage it

**Is your organisation included in the Transparency Register?**

If your organisation is not registered, we invite you to [register here](#), although it is not compulsory to be registered to reply to this consultation. [Why a transparency register?](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

**If so, please indicate your Register ID Number:**

**Country of organisation's headquarters:**

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other

**Please specify**

## Your contribution:

*(Note that, whatever option chosen, your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under Regulation (EC) N°1049/2001)*

- can be published with your organisation's information** (I consent the publication of all information in my contribution in whole or in part including the name of my organisation, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication)
- can be published provided that your organisation remains anonymous** (I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent the publication).

## 2. Your Opinion on the European Labour Authority

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### 2.1. CHALLENGES AS REGARDS EU LABOUR MOBILITY

**Q1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that existing cooperation between national authorities is insufficient to ensure the effective implementation of EU employment and social security rules in cross-border situations:**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Don't know / cannot answer

**Q2. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that the elements presented in the table below constitute challenges to effective cooperation between national authorities on EU cross-border mobility:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Fragmentation of networks of cooperation in different areas (e.g. posting, free movement of workers, social security coordination)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Insufficiency of resources of national authorities to cooperate effectively	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulty in accessing relevant documentation from other Member States	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack or insufficiency of fora for dispute settlement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulties in addressing complex cases of fraud and/or abuse that have a cross-border dimension	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Divergent interpretation and/or enforcement of harmonised rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (Please explain)	<input type="radio"/>					
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**Please explain:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q3. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that insufficient access to information and transparency on cross-border mobility rules is a problem for individuals and businesses:**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Don't know / cannot answer

**Q4. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that the elements presented in the table constitute challenges to fair and easy access to information and transparency of labour mobility rules:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Lack of access to information on EU or national rules in my language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of easily understandable explanations of rights and obligations to comply with when working abroad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of easily understandable explanations of rights and obligations to comply with when sending people to work abroad (posting of workers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulty to identify and /or contact the competent authority to solve my problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Lack of assistance and /or guidance by the competent authorities in my own country	<input type="radio"/>					
Information on rights and obligations in the field of labour mobility is fragmented across different platforms	<input type="radio"/>					
Other (Please explain)	<input type="radio"/>					

**Please explain:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**2.2. OBJECTIVES OF A EUROPEAN LABOUR AUTHORITY**

**Q5. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that following functions could be usefully carried out by a permanent EU body dealing with labour mobility and social security in cross-border situations:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Support the exchange of information of businesses, workers and citizens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coordination of systematic cooperation and information exchange between national authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support the rationalisation and streamlining of administrative practices for cross-border cases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provision of technical assistance and capacity building to national authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provision of analytical support and intelligence on labour mobility issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Coordination of joint inspections by national administrations in cross-border employment and social security matters	<input type="radio"/>					
Dispute resolution mechanisms in cross-border employment and social security matters	<input type="radio"/>					
Other (Please explain)	<input type="radio"/>					

**Please explain:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

### **2.3. POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

**Q6. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that improving cooperation between Member States' authorities on EU employment and social security rules in cross-border situations would have the following impacts:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Facilitating efficiency gains, in particular, by simplifying existing processes and structures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reducing the risk of abuse and/or fraud, due to non-compliance with EU and/or national rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increasing the level of trust between administrations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please explain)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please explain:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q7. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that improving access to information and transparency for individuals and businesses on EU employment and social security rules in cross-border situations would have the following impacts?**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Raising awareness of EU rules and rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating opportunities to work abroad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enhancing of portability of social security rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reducing the risk of abuse and/or fraud for workers and businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitating compliance with the EU rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please explain)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please explain:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q8. How do you see the relationship between the European Labour Authority and other EU agencies, notably those in the employment domain (For example, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work?)**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

### 3. Your Opinion on the European Social Security Number

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**Q9. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the consequences of having a wide variety of national social security numbers and of mechanisms used for identification and registration of persons in national databases:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
It is often complicated for the insured persons to prove their identity for social security purposes across borders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It makes it complicated for the social security institutions to determine the identity of the person for social security purposes across borders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please explain, if possible, by providing concrete examples:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q10. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that a European Social Security Number with the objectives as described in the introduction makes it easier to exercise social security rights when moving or travelling to another EU country:**

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Don't know / cannot answer

**Q11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that the ESSN may bring the following benefits:**

	0 (strongly disagree)	1 (disagree)	2 (neutral)	3 (agree)	4 (strongly agree)	Don't know / no opinion
Better functioning of European labour market (free movement of workers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Simplification of procedures for citizens /workers to prove their identity for social security purposes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More efficient procedures for e.g. institutions/service providers to verify the identity for social security purposes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fight against fraud and abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enhancement of transparency of social security benefits and entitlements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please describe)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please describe:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q12. Please indicate your preferred option as regards the set-up of the ESN:**

- A fixed format for national numbers (e.g. prefix added to existing national numbers);
- On top of the existing national social security number(s) a dedicated EU social security number
- Other

**Please describe:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q13. If a European Social Security Number were introduced, to whom should it be issued?**

- To all EU citizens
- To every newly born
- To every newly born and to every citizen once he/she is moving/travelling to another Member State
- To every citizen once he/she is moving/travelling to another Member State
- Other

**Please specify:**

**Q14. Please indicate what could potentially be covered by the European Social Security Number as a priority (multiple replies possible):**

- unplanned health care provision (as currently done by the European Health Insurance Card)
- planned healthcare provision
- proof of social security cover for posted workers (currently: A1 form used by posted workers)
- sickness, maternity and paternity benefits
- old-age pensions
- pre-retirement and invalidity pensions
- survivors' benefits and death grants
- unemployment
- family benefits
- accidents at work and occupational illness
- other

**Please describe:**

**Q15. The Commission has announced the ESSN as a 'multi-purpose' number. Taxation could be an area to be considered. What could be in your view the other purposes, beyond social security, for which the ESSN could potentially be used?**

Please describe:

*2000 character(s) maximum*

**Q16. Please provide any further observations that you might have concerning the European Labour Authority and/or the European Social Security Number:**

*2000 character(s) maximum*