

Ms. Marianne Thyssen
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Revision of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems

Dear Commissioner Marianne Thyssen

As you are aware, a new Social Democratic Government took office in Denmark by the end of June this year. I look forward to our cooperation and to meeting you at the EPSCO council meeting on 24 October 2019.

Due to the shift of government, I would like to inform you that the Danish priorities regarding the negotiations of Regulation 883/2004 are unchanged after the general election as they are based on a very broad majority in the Danish Parliament.

This includes support for the Commission's original proposal requiring a minimum qualifying period of three months before obtaining access to unemployment benefits. The Danish position is based on a wish of striking a balance between the protection of mobile workers and protection of unemployment insurance schemes.

In this regard, it is essential for Denmark that mobile workers establish a genuine link to the labour market of most recent activity, and that mobile workers contribute to the social security system, before receiving unemployment benefits. I would be pleased to elaborate on the Danish position at a meeting.

Furthermore, I find it essential that we ensure an agreement of high quality. The regulations on social coordination is fundamental to support and allow free movement of workers and services.

We need clear, understandable and enforceable rules in this area for the sake of both administrations and citizens. In this regard, I hope that the Commission will allow sufficient time for the upcoming trilogues and seek a broad majority behind a new agreement.

Yours sincerely

Peter Hummelgaard Thomsen

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