Question for written answer E-015537/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Pascal Arimont (PPE)

Subject: Voluntary waiver of pension entitlements

All frontier workers whose professional careers give them pension entitlements in both Belgium and Germany are confronted with problems regarding access to health care. A person living in Belgium who has pension entitlements in Belgium and Germany is obliged to take out Belgian health insurance, provided that he or she has not been a frontier worker for two out of the last five years.

In practice, this means that medical records must be compiled on both sides of the border, which is often inconvenient for the person concerned. There may also be language barriers.

Against this background, the question arises whether a Belgian frontier worker may voluntarily renounce his or her Belgian pension entitlements. Would such an approach be compatible with EU law? If so, to what extent must the Member State of residence abide by it?

Assuming that a waiver of pension entitlements is possible: what are the consequences for the situation of the person concerned with respect to mandatory (social) insurance?

1081145.EN PE 573.636