European Union; Italy

## European Commission Issues Letter of Formal Notice to Italy for Failure to Comply with EU Rules on Social Security Coordination

16 February 2023

Report from Giulia Gallo, Senior Associate, IBFD

On 15 February 2023, the European Commission announced that it had decided to open an infringement procedure by sending a letter of formal notice to Italy for failing to comply with the EU rules on social security coordination provided by the Social Security Regulation (2004/883) and the free movement of workers under article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and the Regulation on freedom of movement for workers (2011/492).

According to the European Commission, legislation granting family allowances for dependent children only to people residing for at least 2 years in Italy and living in the same household as their children breaches EU law and qualifies as a discrimination, as it does not treat EU citizens equally. In addition, the European Commission noted that the Social Security Regulation (2004/883) prohibits any residence requirements for receiving social security benefits such as family allowances.

Italy has 2 months to address the comments raised by the European Commission. Otherwise, the European Commission may decide to send a reasoned opinion.

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