

Proposed amendment 1: Export of unemployment benefits

Proposed amendment of the Regulation Article 1(20)

The Commission's proposal

Proposed amendment

20. Article 64 is amended as follows:

Deleted

In paragraph 1(c) the word “three” shall be replaced by “six” and the words “of three months up to a maximum of six months” shall be replaced by the words “of six months up to the end of the period of that person's entitlement to benefits”;

In paragraph 3, the word “three” shall be replaced by “six” and the words “a maximum of six months” shall be replaced by the words “the end of the period of entitlement to benefits”.

Or. da

Explanation

The proposed amendment has given rise to significant opposition from member states with a high level of unemployment benefits. It is important to be aware of the fact that unemployment benefits are not indexed in relation to costs-of-living in the country of residence compared to the costs-of-living in the member state paying the benefits. Furthermore, it is necessary to have popular support for EU-instruments. A temporary high benefit during an establishment phase of up to 3 months can probably be accepted by the populations. However, this is not the case for a 6-month period.

In addition to this, high unemployment benefits in a number of countries do not provide any incentive to find employment, since the unemployment benefits in these countries are the equivalent to multiple times the wages that could be obtained in a worker's home country. Furthermore, it will not be possible to verify whether the obligation to be available for work is observed, because this control is to take place in another country.

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Proposed amendment 2: Frontier workers' access to unemployment benefits

Proposed amendment of the regulation Article 1(22)

The Commission's proposal

Proposed amendment to the regulation

21. After article 64, the following is inserted as article 64a:

Deleted

"Article 64a

Special rules for unemployed persons who moved to another Member State without fulfilling the conditions of Article 61(1) and Article 64.

In the situations referred to in Article 61(2), the Member State to whose legislation the unemployed person was previously subject shall become competent to provide unemployment benefits. They shall be provided at the expense of the competent institution for the period laid down in Article 64(1)(c), if the unemployed person makes himself/herself available to the employment services in the Member State of most recent insurance and adheres to the conditions laid down under the legislation of that Member State. Article 64 (2) to (4) shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Or. da

Explanation

The proposal is both bureaucratic and lacks transparency with regard to workers.

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