

Joint Letter on eDeclaration

The European Single Market is one of the EU's greatest achievements and success stories. This year, we can celebrate its 30th anniversary. The close integration of the European economy with its complex value chains is an important building block for Europe to hold its position in global trade against competitors such as the USA or China - especially in the current crisis situation.

However, this close interdependence also requires the smoothest possible internal market - not only for goods and capital, but also for workers and services. Every day, thousands of European workers are on cross-border assignments - be it for sales or advisory meetings, assembly, maintenance or repair work at customers' premises, or to attend trade fairs, meetings or conferences. Free movement of workers and freedom to provide services are two of the four fundamental freedoms and are deeply rooted in the primary law of the European Union. Together with the other fundamental freedoms, they are indispensable for the success of European businesses.

Unfortunately, there is currently a patchwork of national regulations that have to be observed in the case of posting or even short-term employee assignments and business trips in other EU countries. This makes the free movement of workers and the freedom to provide services considerably more difficult and is a disproportional administrative and unnecessarily burden.

We therefore strongly support the European Commission's initiative to create an "eDeclaration" in order to standardise and simplify the reporting obligations for postings within the European Union.

From our point of view, the following points must be taken into account:

- The eDeclaration will only bring relief if it is applied as widely as possible. We would therefore have preferred a uniform solution throughout Europe - analogue to Regulation (EU) 2021/954 on the digital COVID certificate. Since the Commission has initially opted for a voluntary approach, we call on all 27 EU member states to support this initiative and to also offer and recognise the eDeclaration for postings to their territory.
- The eDeclaration must be uniform across the 27 EU Member States. The format must therefore be the same for all Member States, i.e. contain the same and only absolutely


minimum set of data, the same information and the same deadlines. The form should be in English and in the national languages of the Member States concerned.

- The eDeclaration should have a low-threshold, user-friendly format, ideally in the form of an app for smartphones and other mobile devices.
- In many Member States, the application for the A1 certificate as proof of social security has now been digitalised. Consequently, it must at least be possible to integrate the A1 certificate into the eDeclaration. Ideally, it would even be possible to carry out the application procedure from within the app itself. Two different apps for the labour law and social security aspects of the uniform "posting" process make it unnecessarily complicated for the user.
- The eDeclaration should also be usable (at least in the long term) for countries which are not members of the EU/EEA.

We would therefore call on you for your open support on European level and towards your home country for the initiative of creating an eDeclaration that can be used in all Member States and by this creates a real added value for the single market.

We remain at your disposal for any question you may have.

With kind regards,



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[Council of European Employers of the Metal, Engineering and Technology-based Industries \(Ceemet\)](#) is the voice of national employers' organisations of the Metal, Engineering and Technology-based (MET) industries, representing 200,000 member companies across Europe and providing direct and indirect employment for 35 million workers. As the recognized EU level Social Partner for our sector, Ceemet is focusing on labour market policy and industrial relations issues.

[European Chemical Employers Group \(ECEG\)](#) is a recognised European Sectoral Social Partner, representing the chemicals, pharmaceuticals, rubber and plastics industries in Europe. Our sector provides approximately 3.3 million direct jobs in more than 94.000 enterprises.

[Pearle*](#) - Live Performance Europe is the 'Performing Arts Employers Association League Europe', the European Federation of Music and Live Performance Organizations. Pearle represents through its members more than 10,000 managers of theaters, concert venues, theater production companies, orchestras, operas, ballet and dance companies, festivals, promoters and other professional organizations in the performing arts in Europe.