Basic information

2026/0271(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Preparatory phase in Parliament
Digitalisation of the coordination of social security systems and establishment of the European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS) Amending Regulation 2004/883 1998/0360(COD) Amending Regulation 2009/987 2006/0006(COD) Amending Regulation 2018/1724 2017/0086(COD) **Subject** 2.30 Free movement of workers 2.80 Cooperation between administrations 3.30.06 Information and communication technologies, digital technologies 4.10.10 Social protection, social security 4.15.04 Workforce, occupational mobility, job conversion, working conditions 4.15.12 Workers protection and rights, labour law	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	Pending final decision on the referral		
	Committee for opinion	**Rapporteur for opinion**	**Appointed**
	Pending final decision on the referral		
	Committee for budgetary assessment	**Rapporteur for budgetary assessment**	**Appointed**
	Pending final decision on the referral		
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	MÎNZATU Roxana	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
15/09/2026	Legislative proposal published	COM(2026)0980	Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2026/0271(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	Amending Regulation 2004/883 1998/0360(COD) Amending Regulation 2009/987 2006/0006(COD) Amending Regulation 2018/1724 2017/0086(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 58 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 048
Stage reached in procedure	Preparatory phase in Parliament

Documentation gateway

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2026)0980	15/09/2026	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2026)0980	15/09/2026	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2026)0981	15/09/2026	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2026)0982	15/09/2026	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2026)0983	15/09/2026	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Other Members

Transparency

Name	Date	Interest representatives
CLAUSEN Per	15/09/2026	Fagbevægelsens Hovedorganisation
CLAUSEN Per	09/09/2026	Danske Byggefag - Danish Construction Union

Digitalisation of the coordination of social security systems and establishment of the European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS)

2026/0271(COD) - 15/09/2026 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to establish a framework for the European Social Security Passport (ESSPASS).

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: while the Commission and Member States have already taken steps under the current framework to digitalise cross-border procedures, services and data exchanges in the area of social security coordination, further action at EU level is required. This aligns with repeated calls from the European Parliament, including in its 2021 Resolution on a European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS).

The Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) system has significantly improved the handling of cases under the EU social security coordination rules. However, some obstacles to fully realising the benefits of the system remain. **Further digitalisation is needed** to:

- reinforce the protection of individuals and workers by facilitating more effective access to social security rights across Europe;

- reduce administrative hurdles and costs for individuals accessing social security benefits in other Member States and for businesses operating across borders;

- increase the quality of cross-border public services;

- provide Member States with more effective tools to fight against fraud, thus strengthening the protection of rights and fair mobility.

The ESSPASS **pilot phase** from 2021 to 2025, launched under the European Pillar of Social Rights action plan and supported by the Digital Europe programme, proved both the technical feasibility and the practical benefits of the ESSPASS. The proposed regulation will support a smooth transition from the ESSPASS pilot phase to full-scale implementation by establishing rules for the rapid deployment of ESSPASS in all Member States.

CONTENT: the proposed regulation lays down rules for the **establishment and operation of the European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS)**. This is a digital solution for the electronic request, issuance and cross-border verification of social security documents, including the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) and the portable document A1.

The ESSPASS should ensure that individuals are able to swiftly prove their social security rights and should support the seamless exercise of those rights in cross-border situations, while enabling social security institutions, labour inspectorates and healthcare providers to efficiently and securely verify the relevant information. This in turn would facilitate fraud checks and strengthen enforcement.

The ESSPASS should also simplify compliance with applicable requirements for businesses engaging workers, and for self-employed, in cross-border situations.

The ESSPASS legal framework will apply:

- from **12 months** after the date of entry into force of portable document A1;

- from **3 years** after the date of entry into force of the EHIC and other social security documents.

No later than 18 months after the date of entry into force, the Commission may adopt delegated acts establishing, on the basis of an assessment, a list of social security documents, other than the portable document A1 and the EHIC, to which the framework would not apply.

Over a 12-year period, digitalisation could save businesses up to EUR 64 million, healthcare providers EUR 69 million, and labour inspectors EUR 72 million through faster cross-border verification. Digital signatures could prevent up to EUR 277 million in fraud over the same period.