

Highly Mobile Workers and the Coordination of Social Security in the EU

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Propositions accompanying the dissertation

Highly Mobile Workers and the Coordination of Social Security in the EU

Opening and Closing Pandora's Box

Eva Catharina van Ooij

1. Having a right is not always the same as enjoying it. This is certainly true for highly mobile workers who consider the European market as their playing field.
2. A proper EU coordination instrument of social security law should provide legal certainty for all (kinds of) workers.
3. 'We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them' (Albert Einstein).
4. New forms and patterns of work offer new opportunities. In the search for a 21st century EU coordination instrument, let's think with an open mind and 'out of the (pandora's) box'.
5. Calculating behaviour has always existed and will continue to do so.
6. It takes courageous citizens to travel down unbeaten paths. Let us welcome them and let curiosity be our guide while assessing their cases.
7. When the European legislator fails to cope with high mobility there is a risk of legal fragmentation among highly mobile workers: those who 'fit in' the system of coordination and those who do not.
8. Not the European Court of Justice but the European legislature must be in the driver's seat as regards the coordination of social security for highly mobile workers.
9. If solutions were simple, rules and measures would not be that complex. It takes more than one brain to get it right.
10. The fact that the Netherlands did not endorse Beethoven's 9th Symphony as a European symbol must not be considered as a matter of being out of tune, but just demonstrates that the Dutch parliamentarians played an off-key note.

To be defended in public on Thursday 29th September 2022, at 13:00 hours