



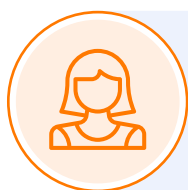
A digital European Social Security Pass

September 2026

What will change

The European Social Security Pass (ESSPASS) will **digitalise social security documents**. People and businesses will be able to request them online and prove their rights instantly across borders. Real-time checks will help detect fraud and abuse. Social security documents, including the European Health Insurance Card, will be available **through the EU Digital Identity Wallet**, a secure digital space.

Who will benefit



CITIZENS will be able to access their social security rights in the EU Digital Identity Wallet, making it faster and safer to access their rights wherever they work. Secure paper formats will remain available.

BUSINESSES will use simpler, standardised digital procedures when posting workers abroad, reducing paperwork and waiting times.



ADMINISTRATIONS will verify insurance status and entitlements instantly, making fraud and abuse easier to detect.



Why it matters



**14 million
citizens**

live in another EU
Member State



**256 million
European Health
Insurance Cards**

are in circulation



**8 million
requests a year**

for proof of social security
rights across borders



**2 million
people**

live in one country
and work in another



**Almost 1 in 5
Europeans**

would like to work
abroad in the future



**5.6 million portable
documents A1**

are issued every year, indicating
the country in which social
security contributions are paid

Timeline

Now: Member States
and the Commission
preparing for the
ESSPASS roll-out

**Adoption by the
European Parliament
and the Council:**
Implementation begins

**1 year after after
entry into force:** key
document needed for
posting workers in other
EU countries digitalised
(‘portable document A1’)

**3 years after after
entry into force:**
European Health
Insurance Card and all
remaining social security
documents digitalised