



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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PRESSE 612

Free movement of workers

The Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper) today approved a directive on measures facilitating the exercise of rights conferred on workers in the context of their free movement within the Union.

The proposed directive does not create new rights. Its objective is to solve the remaining problems in the exercise of the already existing rights as enshrined in the Treaty and further defined in regulation 492/2011¹. It also takes into account different national situations and practices, in particular different labour market models.

The directive guarantees real and effective judicial protection to Union workers and members of their family who have been subject to discrimination on the grounds of nationality, or to any unjustified restriction and obstacles to their right to free movement.

It deals in particular with non-discrimination on grounds of nationality, as regards access to employment, conditions of employment and work, such as remuneration, dismissal, as well as tax and social advantages, by ensuring their equal treatment when they move to another member state.

¹ [Official Journal L 141, 27/05/2011 P. 0001 - 0012](#)

P R E S S

While the Union legislation is clear what are the rights concerned, the workers themselves, or their employers, are not always fully aware of the rights related to free movement and how these rights should be applied. There are also remaining problems in the compliance of the Union legislation by public authorities.

The free movement of workers gives every citizen of the Union, irrespective of his or her place of residence, the right to move freely to another member state in order to work and/or reside there for work purpose.
