



The Institute for European Integration Research kindly invites you to an

EIF Lunchtime Seminar

The debate on access to social benefits for economically non-active mobile EU citizens: The Austrian perspective

> Input Statement by Veronika Pollak

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Abstract: Access to social benefits by mobile European Union (EU) citizens has been widely discussed in recent years. It's a highly sensitive political topic, as it touches upon questions of solidarity and national sovereignty. While such debate is not new to European Union politics, the economic crisis, pressures on the social budgets of member states and the end of transition rules on the freedom of movement of Bulgarian and Romania workers, have led to a resurgence of public debates on 'welfare tourism'.

The lunchtime seminar will take a look at this debate from an Austrian perspective: What is the position that Austria takes on this topic in the Council of the EU? Who was included in the EU-position formation process at the national level? And finally, could Austria successfully defend its position at the EU level?

Place: Seminarraum EIF, Strohgasse 45, 1030 Wien, Dachgeschoss