



Information about the U3 form and its use

1. The U3 form

The U3 form is issued if you are looking for work in an EU country⁽¹⁾ while receiving unemployment benefit from another EU country. The U3 form is a warning from the employment service of the country where you are looking for a job. It means that this service has advised the employment service in the country which is paying your unemployment benefit about the fact that your situation has changed and that these changes may need to be taken into account towards a revision of your benefit payments.

The U3 is delivered as a warning since your benefits may be reduced or stopped following this exchange between institutions.

2. What to do after receiving the U3

Check that the information given in Box 2 of the form is correct. If you think it is wrong then you should discuss immediately with the employment service issuing the form.

You may also need to contact the employment service or social security institution in the country paying your benefit to check how your situation has been affected by this reported change in your situation.

The issue of the U3 may well result in the termination of your unemployment benefit.

3. What happens if you start work in the country where you were seeking work but then become unemployed again?

Your exportable unemployment benefit will cease when you start work. This may not be the case if you take up a part time job depending on the rules of the country paying your benefit.

If you subsequently become unemployed again you should claim benefit from the country you moved to and were working in. Your entitlement may partly depend on insurance you paid in your former country (and for which purposes you may produce a form U1 issued by the authorities of that country). This benefit may then be exported to your former country if you return there, for which you will need a U2 form.

However, if you return to your former country without claiming unemployment benefit in the country where you last worked and you are regarded as having remained resident in the former country even whilst working in another country, then it may be possible for your former country to pay your unemployment benefit.

⁽¹⁾ In the following text, the terms “EU Country” or “EU Member State” will also refer to Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland as soon as Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009 become applicable to them.