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The European Labour Authority (ELA) was established in 2019 in order to support the observance of legislation and cooperation between EU Member States in the effective application and enforcement of the EU rules on labour mobility and coordination of social security systems in the Union.

ELA fulfils these objectives by conducting the following tasks:

- improving access for workers and employers, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, to information on their rights and duties in the area of labour mobility, free movement of services and coordination of social security, so as to enable them to fully benefit from the internal market potential;
- undertaking educational and preventive initiatives (e.g. training of national staff on the rules of cross-border mobility), so as to increase and unify their knowledge;
- facilitating and ensuring effective labour mobility in Europe through supporting Member States in promoting cross-border employment services and coordinating the activity of the European Employment Services (EURES);
- facilitating exchange of information between Member States;
- facilitating and supporting cooperation between Member States, e.g. through
 coordinating and supporting concerted and joint inspections so as to verify the
 lawfulness of posting of workers, or in other situations putting at risk the proper
 functioning of the internal market (e.g. letter-box companies or bogus selfemployment), without prejudice to the competence of Member States to decide on
 measures resulting from national legislation;
- carrying out analyses and risk assessment on issues of cross-border labour mobility;
- supporting Member States in capacity building in the area of labour mobility;
- mediating disputes between Member States on the application of relevant Union law.

The day-to-day activity of ELA is managed by the Executive Director, along with the heads of units. The strategic direction of ELA is decided by its Management Board, composed of representatives of all EU Member States, 2 representatives of the European Commission, an expert appointed by the European Parliament, two representatives of trade unions and two – from employers' organisations at EU level. The Management Board meets twice a year, discusses and adopts strategic decisions and documents. Each years ELA prepares a detailed work programme setting out its tasks and activities.

The State Labour Inspection is represented in the ELA permanent groups: the Working Group for Inspection and the European Platform for Tackling Undeclared Work.