

Statement of Interpretation on Article 12§4

By accepting Article 12-4, the Contracting Parties undertook to ensure, by the conclusion of appropriate bi-lateral or multi-lateral agreements, or by other means, and subject to the conditions laid down in these agreements:

- (a) equality of treatment between their own nationals and those of the other Contracting Parties in respect of social security rights;
- (b) the granting, maintenance and resumption of social security rights.

The Appendix, which is an integral part of the Charter, specifies that, within the framework of these agreements, the granting of benefits available independently of any insurance contribution may be conditional on the completion of a prescribed period of residence.