



Union
Syndicale
Fédérale
Consilium

Brussels, 10 November 2020

Thanks for listening to us Mr Shapcott!

In the [Corona-update of 6 November](#), Mr Shapcott announced that the exceptional rules for telework from abroad would again be applicable until 31 January 2021, with retroactive effect from 4 September 2020. So these are the same rules as during the first lock-down.

Union Syndicale says: THANK YOU !

This means, in practice, that we can telework from abroad during this period without fearing travel restrictions around the end of year festivities. Plus, this change will help colleagues provide more effective support to parents living in another country, and will allow vulnerable colleagues to leave Belgium, one of the most dangerous places in the world in terms of propagation of the virus (provided, in both cases, that this is compatible with service requirements). This will not count as one of the two possibilities in your career where you would like, for personal reasons, to telework on an exceptional basis from a country other than Belgium.

The decision makes good sense. **Union Syndicale** (and the FFPE) had made the [request](#) more than once.

The more general question remains:

Is this restriction on telework from abroad to twice in one's career compatible with the [agreement](#) between the unions and the Appointing Authority on telework?

And is it appropriate in a world that will increasingly include new forms of *hybrid* work, in which the place where the work is performed becomes relatively unimportant?

Union Syndicale is reassured in this emergency situation caused by the pandemic, but will bring the broader question back to the negotiating table once the situation is calmer.

The Executive Committee

The Union Syndicale Team, at your service

Bernd



Frances



Michael



Mohamed



William



Félix



Gunther



Tariq



If you think that we do a useful job, [join us](#), we are stronger together !