

Declaration by the Republic of Bulgaria pursuant to Article SSC.59(1) of the Protocol on Social Security Coordination to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement for the reference year ending on 31 December 2021.

To be notified to the Specialised Committee on Social Security Coordination

I. Declarations under Article SSC.1(q) of the Protocol on Social Security Coordination to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement for the reference year and the date from which the Protocol will apply:

None

II. Legislation under SSC.3(1) of the Protocol on Social Security Coordination to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement for the reference year and the date from which the Protocol will apply.

1. Sickness benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

The Health Act, in force as from 1 January 2005: medical aid in emergency cases; intensive care for persons without health insurance; preventive examinations and tests and obstetric care for all women without health insurance, regardless of the manner of birth chosen, within the scope of and by a procedure determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Health; inpatient psychiatric care; comprehensive outpatient monitoring of uninsured persons with mental health conditions; treatment with methadone substitution and maintenance programmes and outpatient psychiatric rehabilitation programmes; provision of blood and blood products; transplantation of organs, tissues and cells; mandatory treatment and/or mandatory isolation; provision of medical activities for patients with infectious diseases according to a list established by a regulation of the Minister for Health, including for the prevention of epidemiological risk; comprehensive outpatient monitoring of uninsured persons with dermato-venereological diseases; provision of medical activities for patients with non-specific lung diseases according to a list established by a regulation of the Minister for Health; expert examinations on the type and degree of disability and permanent incapacity for work; payment for medical treatment under the conditions and procedure established by the Minister for Health; ensuring the sustainability of medical activities and specialised care provided to specific persons in implementation of projects and programmes funded by the European Structural and Investment Funds or other international financial institutions and donors, according to a list established by a regulation of the Minister for Health; assisted reproduction; vaccines for compulsory immunisation and re-immunisation, vaccines for special indications and in emergency situations, specific serums, immunoglobulins and other bioproducts related to the prevention of communicable diseases, as well as the technical devices for their application; the full range of anti-epidemic activities; access to healthcare activities within the framework of national, regional and municipal health programmes. There is a right to payment for medical and other treatment services in Bulgaria or abroad for illnesses for which no other financing mechanisms are provided under the state budget, municipal budgets or the National Health Insurance Fund budget, or which cannot be insured in Bulgaria, subject to prior approval. In such cases, persons up to the age of 18 are entitled to medical care outside the

scope of compulsory health insurance, which also includes payment from the State budget for medical devices, highly specialised devices/appliances for individual use, dietary foods for special medical purposes, medicinal products not included in the list under Article 262(1) of the Medicinal Products in Human Medicine Act. Any treatment for oncological and oncohematological disease commenced before the age of 18 continues to be paid for after the patient reaches the age of 18 until the end of the treatment.

The Health Insurance Act, in force as from 1 January 1999: within the scope of the compulsory health insurance.

Regulation No 2 of 2019 on the medical and other services referred to in Article 82(1a) and (3) of the Health Act and the conditions and procedure for their approval, use and payment, in force as from 1 April 2019;

Regulation No 9 of 2019 establishing the cover package guaranteed by the National Health Insurance Fund budget, in force as from 13 December 2019.

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: cash benefits for short-term incapacity and occupational rehabilitation.

2. Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

The Health Act, in force as from 1 January 2005: maternity benefits in kind for uninsured pregnant women;

The Health Insurance Act, in force as from 1 January 1999: maternity benefits in kind, within the scope of the compulsory health insurance.

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: cash benefits for occupational rehabilitation necessitated by pregnancy, breastfeeding or IVF treatment, cash benefits for pregnancy and childbirth, cash benefits for those raising children up to the age of two and cash benefits for the adoption of children up to the age of five, cash benefits in the event of non-use of maternity and childbirth leave and of the additional paid leave for raising children up to the age of two, paternity cash benefits.

3. Invalidity benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

The Health Act, in force as from 1 January 2005: invalidity benefits in kind, outside the scope of the compulsory health insurance.

The Health Insurance Act, in force as from 1 January 1999: invalidity benefits in kind, within the scope of compulsory health insurance.

The Persons with Disabilities Act, in force as from 1 January 2019: non-contributory sickness benefits in kind, provided to persons with disabilities with a view to integrating them into society.

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: from the state social security system - pension for invalidity due to illness and cash benefits for invalidity due to illness where the insured person lacks the necessary number of contributory years for the granting of a pension for invalidity due to illness; grants for prevention and rehabilitation and cash grants for specialised equipment relating to a disability; social invalidity pension.

The Persons with Disabilities Act, in force as from 1 January 2019: non-contributory sickness cash benefits, provided to persons with disability with a view to integrating them into society - monthly financial support.

4. Old-age benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

The Health Act, in force as from 1 January 2005: benefits in kind, outside the scope of the compulsory health insurance.

The Health Insurance Act, in force as from 1 January 1999: benefits in kind, within the scope of compulsory health insurance;

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: cash benefits provided by the state social security system, contributory old-age pension; contributory reduced-rate old-age pension; supplementary lifelong old-age pension provided by the compulsory additional social security scheme.

5. Survivor's benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

None

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: cash benefits: survivor's pension provided by the state social security system, survivor's pension provided by the compulsory additional social security scheme, as well as a supplement deriving from the pension or accumulated pensions of the deceased spouse provided by the state social security system.

6. Benefits in respect of accidents at work and occupational diseases

(i) Benefits in kind

The Health Act, in force as from 1 January 2005: benefits in kind, outside the scope of the compulsory health insurance.

The Health Insurance Act, in force as from 1 January 1999: benefits in kind, within the scope of compulsory health insurance;

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000:

1. cash benefits for short-term incapacity as a result of accidents at work or occupational diseases, treatment at a sanatorium, urgent medical examinations, tests and/or treatments;
2. cash benefits for occupational rehabilitation in case of short-term incapacity as a result of accidents at work or occupational diseases;
3. cash grants for prevention and rehabilitation;
4. invalidity pensions related to accidents at work and occupational diseases;
5. cash grants for specialised equipment relating to a disability.

7. Death grants

Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: lump-sum grant on the death of an insured person to the spouse, children and parents.

8. Unemployment benefits

(i) Benefits in kind

None

(ii) Cash benefits

The Social Security Code, in force as from 1 January 2000: cash benefits provided by the state social security system.

The Employment Promotion Act, in force as from 1 January 2002: conditions for registering as an unemployed person and for maintaining registration at the Employment Agency, as part of the conditions for receiving unemployment benefits.

9. Pre-retirement benefits

Cash benefits

None.