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Nearly 500,000 Brits overseas face poverty after pension increases froze

Those who emigrated abroad have not had annual increases in their pensions for 70 years except where Britain has an agreement with the country they now live in

By **Nigel Nelson**, Political Editor

19:27, 18 Feb 2023



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Nearly 500,000 elderly Brits living overseas have launched a campaign to get their frozen pensions up to prevent poverty.

Those who emigrated abroad have not had annual increases in their pensions for 70 years except when in agreement with the country they now live in.

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And successive governments have been reluctant to strike such deals because of the extra £640million

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freezes, some living on as little as £40 a week.

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Many people who emigrated haven't had annual increases for 70 years (Image: PA)

She said: "I served my country and paid National Insurance contributions every week just like everyone theft.

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"I'll fight until the day I die for pension rights. We earned our pensions and we paid for them in full."

There are 106 countries in which retired Brits are paid their pensions at the amount they would have received if they had left the UK.

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Sp

The 385,000 who are living in the EU - 103,000 in Spain - have their growing pensions protected under

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falling exchange rates, Anne's pension is converting to fewer Canadian dollars, yet food and heating prices are rising. The cost of living is a real problem for many people.

"If my wife and I had emigrated 100km south to the US we would have received indexed state pensions. £13,000."