

**Question for written answer E-004390/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Aid for Ebro flood damage

Aragon is suffering the effects of the worst flooding of the river Ebro for a decade. Other autonomous regional communities, such as Navarre, the Basque Country and La Rioja, have also been affected.

It is estimated that the flooding of the river has affected almost 30 000 hectares in an important protected area of the Natura 2000 network. Thousands of holdings have suffered flooding and thousands of animals have died. Some 1 500 inhabitants of villages along the upper and lower reaches of the river have had to be evacuated, such as the citizens of Pradilla and Boquiñeni. People's houses and belongings, as well as a good number of infrastructures, have been damaged, and the flooding has also caused numerous problems in Zaragoza, where the river reached the height of six metres.

Following serious floods in central Europe a few years ago the EU Solidarity Fund was set up to respond to major natural disasters. The Fund currently has up to EUR 500 million available.

Could the Commission clarify what kinds of funding are available from the EU in cases such as that referred to above? Can the Commission confirm whether the Spanish authorities have asked for any aid from the EU to alleviate the effects of this natural disaster?