

**Question for written answer E-006818/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)**

Subject: Disastrous flooding in Greece

Yet again many regions in Greece (Kalamata, Thessaloniki, Epirus and others) have been hit by flooding. The deluge has resulted in four deaths and the wholesale destruction of infrastructure, roads, workplaces, shops and offices, dwellings, agricultural crops and livestock.

At a time when huge technological advances are being made, the assertion that it is nature that is wholly to blame is untrue. The cause is policy. The necessary infrastructure works, such as flood defences or anti-earthquake measures, which could protect human life and property, lie outside the EU's priorities and, as a rule, are not funded by the NSRF (National Strategic Reference Framework). What is more, it is instructive to note that the Solidarity Fund refuses to fund repairs for individuals, i.e. for people's homes that have been hit.

While the EU and governments feed banks, industry and shipowners billions with the heavy taxes imposed on the people, they are leaving ordinary citizens exposed to danger. The very small selective amounts from European funds, after the fact, amount to derisory sticking plasters.

What measures will the Commission take to ensure full repairs for the disastrous damage caused by the latest floods, and especially to people's homes and small businesses that have been hit?

What is the Commission's position on the completion of flood defences and anti-earthquake works, based on the needs of the people, which runs counter to the policy adopted by the EU and governments?