

EN  
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Answer given by Ms Crețu  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(17.5.2019)

An essential condition for mobilising the EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) is that total direct damage exceeds a threshold specific to each country or region (0.6% of gross national income or 1.5% of regional gross domestic product). For Malta the applicable threshold is EUR 62.4 million. The Commission has discussed with the Maltese authorities all possible options to use the EUSF for the damage caused by the storm of February 2019. After having assessed the damage, the Maltese authorities concluded that it is considerably below the threshold and informed the Commission that they would not apply for EUSF assistance.