

**Question for written answer E-003122/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Damage from Hurricane 'Lorenzo' in the Autonomous Region of the Azores

On 2 October 2019, the Autonomous Region of the Azores was hit by the Category 2 Hurricane 'Lorenzo'. Thanks to the Azorean authorities' exemplary behaviour, planning and action, there were no fatalities or injuries.

However, inevitably, there was considerable material damage on the islands of the Western and Central Groups. Of particular concern is the complete destruction of the Port of Lajes das Flores, on which the islands of Flores and Corvo depend for their supplies and exports. Essential goods, such as fuels and cereals, are soon likely to become scarce. We would therefore like to ask:

How is the Commission monitoring events in this outermost region of the European Union, which should benefit from special treatment given its particular characteristics and constraints (Article 349 TFEU), and how can it support the urgent reconstruction of the Port of Lajes das Flores?

What aid can be provided to support the activities of the sectors affected, particularly agriculture, fisheries and tourism?