

**Question for written answer E-013292/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Tornado over Gallipoli and prevention and reconstruction action by the EU in the areas affected

A tornado which hit Gallipoli in Italy on 19 November has devastated the coast, overturning dozens of boats and damaging houses and public buildings, including schools, the court building and the police barracks. An initial damage estimate has been carried out by the city's technical office and the mayor's office, and they have calculated the damage caused to be at least EUR 15-17 million. The wind was so strong that it damaged a primary school and a secondary school. Many houses were damaged, and a large number of families were left without any accommodation.

1. Will the Commission look at the possibility of helping the affected area, if necessary by using resources from the Regional Development Fund?
2. What other urgent measures does it intend to take with a view to supporting civilians and restoring minimum living conditions in these regions?
3. In view of the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change and the Green Paper on the insurance of natural and man-made disasters, accompanying the strategy, what common tools does the Commission plan to put in place to prevent disasters and to raise awareness among individuals and businesses?