

**Question for written answer E-003383/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Impact of bad weather and coastal erosion in Portugal: Caparica coast

This winter was characterised by bad weather and extremely turbulent seas.

A number of coastal areas in Portugal were seriously affected, particularly in terms of damage along the length of the coastal strip which poses a threat to people and property.

The Caparica coast was one of the areas hardest hit, with the sea having inflicted varied and significant damage to public areas and beach facilities, bars and restaurants since the beginning of 2011. This has further endangered the already fragile coastal zone.

The first major storm, on 6 January 2014, partially destroyed the cordon of dunes at Praia de São João beach and in February the sea broke over the sea wall of the Caparica coast on several occasions, causing considerable damage.

Apart from the environmental damage, the cost to operators of beach facilities, bars and restaurants has been cumulative, as they have not only suffered material losses but also been unable to work for many days.

In light of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What EU support can be mobilised for each of these areas: to repair the damage and prevent similar disasters in the future?
2. What support can be mobilised to rehabilitate public infrastructure which has been destroyed and for consolidation work in the areas involved, which is vital to people's safety?
3. Which of Parliament's recommendations from the Ferreira report on disaster prevention, adopted in September 2010, has the Commission implemented to date?
4. What is the situation as regards revision of the EU's Solidarity Fund Regulation? What are the Commission's main proposals concerning revision of the Fund?