

**Question for written answer E-002840/2017**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Kati Piri (S&D)**

Subject: The situation in Chios as regards the reception of refugees and necessary support for the local population

The EU is providing emergency support to Greece, which ‘...shall provide a needs-based emergency response, complementing the response of the affected Member States, aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering, and maintaining human dignity’<sup>1</sup>.

However, the situation on the Greek island of Chios is particularly worrying, as it seems that not all needs are being addressed there and that local public support for the EU and the reception of refugees is declining.

- Does the Commission plan to invest in long-term projects on the island of Chios that would be of benefit both to the reception of refugees and to the local population, such as very much needed improvements in infrastructure?
- How does the Commission involve local actors on the island of Chios to give them ‘ownership’ of the EU-funded projects and to ensure that EU funds are spent where they are most urgently needed?
- Does the Commission agree that maintaining local support for the reception of refugees in Greece is crucial in relation to dangerous anti-refugee sentiments and the rise of xenophobia on the Greek islands?

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2016/369 of 15 March 2016 on the provision of emergency support within the Union.