

**Question for written answer E-006449/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)

Subject: Humanitarian aid in Mali

It appears that in the two months prior to 21 November 2018 nearly 70 000 people were newly displaced in Mali due to violence and insecurity. Unfortunately, because of the activities of armed groups and military operations in central and northern Mali, humanitarian agencies are unable to provide emergency relief to starving women and children after running out of funds. In 2018, some 5.2 million people required humanitarian assistance in Mali. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the needs are higher than at any time since the beginning of the security crisis in 2012. While the number of people in need continues to rise, it is most likely that millions of people will not have received any assistance before the end of 2018.

Given that, in December, the EU allocated additional support of EUR 50 million to Mali, to a total of EUR 665 million for 2014-2020 under the European Development Fund, what steps does the Commission plan to take to ensure prompt assistance to the affected population in their home countries and, in particular, to the starving women and children?