

Question for written answer E-002824/2019
to the Commission
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Flooding in central and south-eastern Spain

In September, central and south eastern Spain was hit by a subtropical jet stream, causing the worst flooding in 140 years.

The consequences have been catastrophic: six people killed, one disappeared, countless homes and buildings and infrastructure swept away and serious damage to the economy. The farming sector has been particularly badly affected, with more than 300 000 hectares of crops destroyed, especially grapes, vegetables and citrus fruits.

While the final damage has yet to be quantified, the people affected need our immediate, unmitigated support, as well as clear and adequate responses to alleviate the devastating effects of the floods.

The European Union's founding values are cohesion and solidarity, and Spain's people now need to see these values put into practice through all possible channels, such as the European Solidarity Fund.

Given that the gravity of the events requires concrete and urgent action,

(1) What emergency measures does the Commission intend to deploy to help the sectors most affected, especially fruit and vegetables?

(2) How else does the Commission consider that the European Union can contribute to help its citizens?