

**Question for written answer E-003828/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)**

**Subject:** Flooding in the Ionian Islands and Western Greece

Over the last few hours, Western Greece and the Ionian Islands, mainly Corfu and Kefalonia, have been afflicted by extremely severe weather conditions. Torrential rain and strong winds have brought down trees and caused landslides and floods, resulting in extensive damage to roads and engulfing homes and shops. Power and water supplies have been cut off in several areas, while flood water carrying tonnes of mud has been sweeping all before it, including vehicles, many of whose drivers have had to be extricated by firefighters.

According to initial reports now coming in, incalculable damage has been caused to crops, livestock, roads, infrastructures and properties.

Moreover, this is not the first time that these areas have been stricken by extreme weather conditions attributable to climate change, a state of emergency having recently been declared on the island of Kefalonia in the wake of severe flooding. In view of this:

- Can the Commission say whether the EU Solidarity Fund can be deployed immediately to offset in full the damage wreaked by severe weather conditions and bring relief to the stricken areas?
- Will specific funding be earmarked for projects designed to safeguard the affected areas from future threats arising from climate change?