

**Question for written answer E-003172/2020**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Ignazio Corrao (NI)**

**Subject:** Action to protect the residents of Lampedusa: symbolic taxation, migrant management and ad hoc financial programme

Migrant management has literally militarised the island of Lampedusa: for decades, it has been forced to accommodate an endless stream of migrants that has overwhelmed the island's infrastructure and economy, while neighbouring Malta systematically turns vessels away and lives by different rules.

The EU's failure to step in and help Lampedusa is threatening to destroy the Lampedusians' greatest assets, such as their hospitality, their unity in diversity, and tourism.

The island's essential services – from health care (it has just one outpatient clinic) to its environmental services – have been run into the ground. It is facing issues with fishing, connections to the mainland (only one boat serves the island), economic livelihood, indiscriminate disembarkations, roads and sewage.

Security in the hotspot is putting migrants' health at risk, as there is insufficient space available for quarantining.

Now, as a result of the pandemic and the absence of tourists, the island truly is on the brink of collapse.

In light of this, can the Commission say whether Lampedusa:

1. as an outermost region, could be eligible for symbolic taxation;
2. could receive EU support to stop migrants from disembarking on the island;
3. could benefit from an ad hoc financial programme for the 2021-2027 period?