

**Question for written answer E-001293/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Problems in the aftermath of the Medea weather system

The numerous power cuts that occurred during the latest spell of bad weather resulted in the death of many hospital patients, while in Attica and Evia hundreds of thousands of homes were left without electricity and water.

As a result of the energy marketing policy, 22.7% of the population live in energy poverty and 35.6% are unable to pay for power.

Furthermore, civil protection services, legalised and maintained by the EU at Member State level through the euphemistically named 'rescEU' mechanism, were lacking.

In view of the above:

1. What is the Commission's view of the request to activate the EU Solidarity Fund, without the restrictive conditions governing it, in order to urgently and fully compensate those affected by the bad weather?
2. What is the Commission's view of the fact that both the EU and Greek Government's policy and the creation of the so-called 'rescEU' mechanism are perpetuating the catastrophic failure, in spite of the public's request, to immediately implement all current and necessary civil protection projects (to combat flooding, earthquakes and fires) under the sole responsibility of the State, the mass recruitment of permanent staff to cover needs, the provision of infrastructure, rescue facilities, etc.?
3. What is the Commission's view of the fact that the growing problem of energy poverty and rising costs, as well as the decline in coverage of people's energy needs, as evidenced by official data, are due to incessant EU and government policy to liberalise energy in the interests of monopolies?