

**Question for written answer E-001414/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Immediate and full compensation for working families affected by the Thessaly earthquake

On 3 and 4 March, severe and widespread earthquake damage was sustained in the municipalities of Ellassona, Tyrnavos, Farkadona, Palamas and elsewhere, although luckily no lives were lost. This event has highlighted the criminal failure of successive Greek governments and the EU to take suitable precautions. Hundreds of buildings have been left damaged and many of them declared uninhabitable, while the impact on bridges, roads, schools, local business infrastructures and the farming community has been no less devastating. In the meantime, the Government is doing too little and too late to provide temporary housing, chemical toilets, water and electricity supplies, masks, antiseptics, etc. to meet the immediate needs of hundreds of families left homeless and exposed to adverse weather conditions.

The construction of earthquake-resistant buildings and the provision of protective infrastructures in Greece, where 50% of Europe's seismic activity takes place with a strong earthquake occurring almost every 18 months, are not considered 'eligible' for EU and NSRF funding.

Can the Commission say:

1. Will it remove the strict conditions for mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund to ensure full and immediate compensation for working families, the self-employed and others affected and restore public infrastructures?
2. How does it view the call for immediate earthquake preparation and protection measures?