Question for written answer E-000282/2022 to the Commission Rule 138

Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Devastating floods in different parts of Greece

Heavy rains and storms in mid-December claimed the life of a woman in Pieria and wreaked massive destruction on a number of localities in Greece.

Hundreds of hectares of farmland in Fthiotida were destroyed when the river Spercheios burst its banks, homes, farmsteads and storage depots were flooded in West Achaea and roads were blocked by landslides. Similar problems were encountered in Aetolia-Acarnania (especially in Messolonghi, Nafpaktos and Makryneia).

Factories and livestock farms in the prefecture of Preveza were destroyed and homes and business premises flooded. Small farmers in Thesprotia saw their tangerine harvests destroyed and trout farms in the prefecture of loannina sustained serious damage. In Metsovo, the Triantafyllo Bridge collapsed into the river Arachthos.

The recent passage of storm 'Diomedes' has exacerbated the problems arising from long-term neglect of infrastructures and inadequate flood protection in the areas affected. In the light of this, what view does the Commission take of urgent calls for:

- mobilisation of the EU 'Solidarity Fund' to provide full (100%) compensation for all affected households and self-employed individuals in the stricken areas, without the application of unfavourable terms and conditions resulting in non-eligibility or reduced compensation payments for certain victims;
- 2. payment of full compensation to farmers for the destruction of their crops and livestock;
- 3. immediate works to prevent erosion and flooding in affected areas in order to meet the needs of local residents and protect the environment?