Question for written answer E-001937/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Gianna Gancia (ID)

Subject: Aid for Türkiye

The European Union has earmarked some EUR 5.5 million in aid for Türkiye following the earthquake in Southeastern Anatolia on 6 February, which claimed over 42 000 lives. Enlargement Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi then issued a statement announcing that, 'Our help will stop here. We will help alleviate not only the immediate impact but also the medium and long-term effects of this earthquake'.

According to press reports, however, 2.5 million children in Türkiye are still living in severe poverty and insecurity, many of them having been forced to interrupt their studies, which had already been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the most vulnerable among them in the affected areas increasingly exposed to violence, forced marriage or child labour, seriously compromising their education. This is compounded by structural problems, such as a lack of classrooms and teachers, with pre-fabricated schools, stationery and books being sorely needed.

## In view of this:

- 1. Can the Commission identify the intended direct recipients of the funding and say to what specific use it was put?
- 2. Is the Commission monitoring the correct use of thereof?
- 3. Is any additional funding being envisaged and, if so, how much and for what purpose will it be used?

Submitted:14.6.2023