

**Question for written answer E-002098/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Depopulation of mountain areas in Europe

The trend towards depopulation in mountain areas in Europe has many economic and social consequences.

The effects can be devastating. Often, the areas most at risk of depopulation are also the most vulnerable to hydrogeological instability. On a social level, depopulated areas become considerably more expensive, even for the most basic services, while on an economic level, it goes without saying that the lack of inhabitants leads to considerable losses.

In light of the above:

1. What will the Commission do to curb the depopulation of mountain areas?
2. What action will it take to support areas at risk of depopulation from an economic and social perspective?

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