

**Question for written answer E-002294/2023/rev.1**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Sara Cerdas (S&D)**

**Subject:** Transport problems in the Autonomous Region of Madeira

Territorial cohesion in the outermost regions of the European Union is crucial to advancing their socio-economic development and guaranteeing equal opportunities. On the island of Madeira, strong winds are an increasingly common occurrence and have closed the airport for several hours and sometimes even days at a time, causing disruption to the local population and those who want to visit us. Nothing has yet been done to mitigate these serious interruptions to transport connections.

Given that the EU should ensure that no person or region is left behind:

1. Does the Commission intend to find out whether there are plans to start a ferry route to the mainland throughout the year and increase inter-island sea links (for regions with double insularity, such as Porto Santo) in order to guarantee transport connections and boost the region's socio-economic development?
2. How can the Commission help national authorities ensure transport connections in these regions are protected?

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