

**Question for written answer E-002990/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Theodoros Zagorakis (PPE)

Subject: Education as a tool for responding to natural disasters

Educating people on how to respond to natural disasters is vital for the protection of human lives and as a way of reducing the physical damage caused by such disasters. Education must be ongoing and updated to take account of new developments and best practices in responding to natural disasters.

As a phenomenon, natural disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires and floods are one of the most important issues facing societies. We have recently seen a number of Member States suffer the consequences of natural disasters. Greece, for example, experienced some of the worst wildfires this summer as well as flooding in Thessaly more recently. Some changes need to be made with a view to ensuring the best possible citizen response to natural disasters.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission have any detailed information on successful education programmes, introduced by Member States, that could be used as examples of best practices?
2. Does it plan to promote relevant education programmes from school-age up with the aim of educating and preparing citizens to deal with emergency situations?
3. What financial tools can it make available for school pupils and young people to receive the relevant education and training?

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