

**Question for written answer E-000525/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)

Subject: Delayed reconstruction of earthquake-affected areas of Samos

On 30 October 2020, Samos was hit by a powerful earthquake that caused injuries and significant material damage to houses and shops. Greece is hit by natural disasters often and the absence of civil protection planning is, sadly, accompanied by a lack of care for those affected.

On 21 December 2020, Commissioner Ferreira stated that the European Regional Development Fund can support measures for risk prevention and management, including for systems aimed at disaster management and building disaster resilience. She added that in the period 2014-2020, EUR 300 million was earmarked for Greek programmes funded by the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund for measures to boost civil protection and the prevention and mitigation of natural disasters, such as earthquakes. She said it was up to Member States to plan, choose and implement the co-funded projects.

Unfortunately, the situation thus far is as follows:

- three and a half years on, the government has still not fulfilled its promises;
- there are 520 building permits yet to be issued for repairs;
- no subsidies are given for demolitions;
- even the meagre rent subsidy that was being given, stopped 14 months ago.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission know whether a comprehensive plan (assuming there is one) is being implemented, with a clear timeline for the full reconstruction of the earthquake-affected areas of Samos?
2. Does it not believe that the reconstruction of areas affected by natural disasters should happen within a set period of time?
3. Does it not consider that, in the case of Samos, there have been inexplicable and unreasonable delays?

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