

Question for written answer P-007886/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Lara Comi (PPE) and Giovanni Toti (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Flooding in Genoa: EU and Italian Government support

Genoa was recently hit by severe flooding which caused damage estimated at EUR 300 million to property, the cultural heritage, businesses and infrastructure and resulted in a number of casualties.

Although the Solidarity Fund, on which the Italian Government will presumably make a call within the next 10 weeks, will provide much-needed assistance, it is intended to cover emergency operations only.

With reference to the Floods Directive (2007/60/EC), which lays down a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, and with a view to enabling all available sources of EU funding to be drawn on, can the Commission say:

1. what EU funds other than the Solidarity Fund may be used, and what funding can be provided under EU programmes, even on a cofinancing basis, to help repair the damage caused by this disaster and make high-risk areas safe?
2. whether Italy has met its obligations under Directive 2007/60/EC, in particular as regards the flood hazard and flood risk maps and related risk management plans provided for in the directive, and whether data are already available on the areas affected?
3. whether an exception could be made to the Stability Pact to allow the local authorities to take the action required to make the area affected safe?