Subject: Repatriation of EU nationals due to COVID-19

The repatriation of European citizens to their countries of origin due to the COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented humanitarian issue facing EU countries. As the Commission announced yesterday, EUR 45 million will be allocated from the EU budget to help Member States' efforts to repatriate their nationals from third countries under certain conditions.

Given that:

the United Kingdom (UK) left the EU institutions on 31 January 2020 and is essentially considered a third country, even though EU law and the four freedoms continue to apply in the UK during the transitional period; and

that many European citizens in the UK, particularly students, feel insecure because of the general situation, and the tangible risks relating to access to medicines and essentials due to shortages that already exist, but mainly as regards prospects for their gradual repatriation and for reuniting with their families,

Can the Commission say:

1. Could the UK be included in the proposed plans for the repatriation of EU nationals from other countries?
2. What other immediate measures could be taken to support the persons concerned?
3. Does the proposal take into account the particularities of isolated island states such as Cyprus?