

**Priority question for written answer P-003861/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Dimitrios Papadimoulis (The Left)

Subject: Climate crisis and devastating fires in Greece

Many parts of Greece have been stricken by devastating fires amidst the worst heat wave in the last 30 years, with entire areas laid to waste and homes, businesses and thousands of hectares of forestland destroyed, forcing the evacuation of many parts of the country.

These and other disastrous events in Europe (fires in Italy, France, Cyprus and Romania, flooding in Belgium and Germany, etc.) once again highlight the escalating climate crisis and the urgent need to channel more human resources and funding into efforts to achieve greater solidarity and a more rapid and effective coordinated response at European level.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say when the Greek Government requested assistance from the European Civil Protection Mechanism and for which regions? How swiftly did the EU and the Member States respond and what assistance did they provide?
2. What specific measures does the Commission plan to take and what action is needed to ensure that European Solidarity Fund assistance reaches victims without any bureaucratic delays?