

**Priority question for written answer P-000707/2023
to the Council**

Rule 138

Engin Eroglu (Renew)

Subject: Potential refugee flows resulting from the earthquake in the border area between Türkiye and Syria

The earthquake in the border area between Türkiye and Syria on 6 February 2023 caused many casualties. As of 10 February 2023, more than 20 000 people had been killed, more than 75 000 injured and more than 100 000 made homeless. The earthquake took place in a region which was the source of refugee flows to the Union already before the natural disaster. These flows could further increase as a result of the earthquake. This at a time when many municipalities in the Union are being pushed to the limits of their capacity by the refugees from Ukraine, despite their willingness to accept them.

1. Does the Council have any data that would make it possible to estimate the number of potential refugees?
2. Is the Council making any preparations to accommodate possible refugee flows in the Union?
3. In the light of the decisions it adopted yesterday on the migration and asylum system, is the Council planning to send assistance to the disaster region to help with construction or to implement other measures to provide refugees with adequate accommodation and care in the region?

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