

**Priority question for written answer P-003264/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Floods in Tuscany – urgent action by the Commission required through the deployment of the European Solidarity Fund and special funds

Since the evening of Thursday 2 November 2023, Tuscany has been affected by floods, resulting in many deaths and missing persons, as well as causing considerable damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure.

The resulting disruption is of a scale not seen in more than 50 years and has had disastrous effects on dozens of towns and villages.

From an initial partial picture, the damage across the region is estimated at over EUR 500 million.

The Italian Council of Ministers, on a proposal from the Minister for Civil Protection, declared a state of emergency and provided initial allocations to ensure the most urgent measures and actions aimed at rescuing and assisting the population and restoring public services and strategic network infrastructures.

Given the damage and dramatic consequences caused by the flooding, and given that the region of Tuscany boasts a historical, cultural and architectural heritage unique in the world, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Will it ensure full support for the region of Tuscany and the Italian Government through the urgent mobilisation of the European Solidarity Fund as soon as it is requested?
2. Is it considering taking extraordinary measures to safeguard Tuscany's artistic and cultural heritage and to support citizens and businesses in the affected areas?

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