

**Question for written answer E-001908/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Financial support for tourism businesses in disaster-stricken Magnesia

After storm Daniel hit in September 2023, extensive parts of the Region of Thessaly were ravaged by floods, which caused severe damage to infrastructure and businesses. On top of this, towards the end of August this year, thousands of dead fish washed up on the shores of the Pagasetic Gulf causing a major environmental disaster, which brought the area to its knees and drove tourists away. The tourism sector, a mainstay of the local economy, in particular Magnesia's economy, now finds itself in a critical situation as businesses are unable to return to business as usual without direct financial support.

Given how serious and urgent a matter this is, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Will it deploy available financial instruments to provide direct support to tourism businesses in Magnesia that have been affected by Storm Daniel and the dead fish in the Pagasetic Gulf?
2. Is it considering the possibility of giving priority funding from European programmes to activities focused on rebuilding and strengthening the tourism sector in the regional unit of Magnesia?
3. What steps will it take to ensure the viability of tourism businesses in areas such as Magnesia that are affected by environmental disasters, bearing in mind the increasing risk posed by climate change?

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