

**Question for written answer E-002481/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: DANA in Spain and the risk of medicine and vaccine shortages

Torrential rains caused by the DANA weather phenomenon have affected a large area of southern and eastern Spain, where the worst floods in a century have been recorded. This natural catastrophe has left a horrifying scene in its wake: more than 200 deaths, numerous missing persons, millions of euros of damage and thousands of people left homeless.

A week later, the affected areas are still covered in sludge, stagnant water and sewerage, and are thus breeding grounds for numerous diseases, infections and, in extreme cases, epidemics.

At this moment in time, the authorities are concerned about the possibility of a tetanus epidemic among affected persons and volunteers who may have had open wounds and come into contact with contaminated sludge. There has therefore been a push in the affected areas for people to get vaccinated against this disease.

1. Is the Commission in a position to contribute to mitigating the risk of vaccine shortages in the event of natural disasters such as the one in Spain?
2. Has the Spanish Government requested the EU rescue mechanism (rescEU) to be activated in order to obtain medical aid and assistance with disease prevention?
3. Has a virtual warehouse for data on vaccine needs and stocks already been set up to provide information on vaccine supplies and shortages?

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