

Question for written answer E-001062/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)

Subject: Supporting East Macedonia and Thrace in the face of the demographic crisis

The Greek region of East Macedonia and Thrace is facing severe demographic decline, with a birthrate that continues to fall (in 2024, the birthrate dropped around 50 % compared to the annual birthrate before 2017) and a population that is ageing. The migration of young people to cities or other countries, economic hardship and the lack of support measures for families have created an environment of uncertainty for the region. As one of the least developed regions of the European Union, East Macedonia and Thrace is in need of measures and policies that support families, strengthen the local economy and promote job creation. The EU has tools that can help address these challenges, but the question remains as to whether the available funds are being used effectively.

In light of the above, can the Commission say:

1. What funding programmes or actions does it intend to promote in order to help East Macedonia and Thrace address the demographic crisis and encourage young people to stay in the region?
2. How does it plan to support the economic development of the region, especially in terms of creating jobs and improving infrastructure?
3. Has provision been made for specific development initiatives that respond to the needs of this region, taking into account social cohesion and the growing demographic challenges?

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