

**Question for written answer E-001667/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)

Subject: The Greek islands' lack of resilience to natural disasters and the need for sustainable spatial planning

The recent devastating floods on Aegean islands such as Paros, Mykonos and Rhodes have shown the lack of infrastructure and planning for tackling the climate crisis. In Paros, one month's rainfall fell in two hours, flooding built-up areas and turning the bay of Naousa into a lake of mud. Urban sprawl, the destruction of traditional water retention structures (such as dry-stone terraces) and their replacement with impermeable materials such as cement have dramatically worsened the situation.

At the same time, a large number of building permits have been issued on islands such as Paros – even more than in 'saturated' tourist destinations such as Mykonos and Santorini. Meanwhile, residents and businesses are struggling to repair damages before the start of the tourist season, while local frustration with the abandonment of public services is coming to a head.

In view of this, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Are there financial tools available for sustainable spatial restructuring and flood protection projects in areas under intense tourist pressure?
2. Does it intend to ask the Greek Government to review the construction policy on the islands in order to ensure the protection of the natural and cultural landscape and the safety of residents and tourists?

Submitted: 24.4.2025