

**Question for written answer E-003121/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Costas Mavrides (S&D)

Subject: Permanent deployment of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism in Cyprus

Despite the admirable efforts of firefighting forces and volunteers in response to the recent deadly fire in Cyprus (in the mountainous region of Limassol), there has been an undeniable lack of timely and practical assistance from the EU. Therefore, I strongly reiterate the suggestion I made as Chair of the Political Committee for the Mediterranean (2019-2024): to permanently deploy an EU Civil Protection Mechanism force in Cyprus, allowing cooperation in crisis management with non-EU countries in the context of the good neighbourhood strategy – a proposal supported by the Union for the Mediterranean. Given that social media posts by the heads of EU institutions referring to solidarity and sympathy are no substitute for the practical assistance for which the mechanism was set up, can the European Commission answer the following:

1. Was there an adequate preventive presence of EU Civil Protection Mechanism forces in Cyprus, and was there a relevant request from the competent Cypriot authorities?
2. After the fire started, was there a request from the Cypriot authorities to the Mechanism and, if so, how does the Commission assess the procedures for providing assistance, in particular as regards the equal and fair treatment of all Member States?
3. Which programmes/funds can help with compensation and restoration efforts in the area?

Submitted: 28.7.2025