

**Question for written answer E-003387/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)

Subject: Forest fire response in Chios – Restoration and protection of Natura areas

On 12 August 2025, a second wildfire broke out on the Greek island of Chios. The fire severely impacted the area around Volissos and revealed serious shortcomings in the management and response of European funds.

The fire in the settlement of Potamia spread rapidly on account of strong winds, destroying areas with forest and grassland vegetation and putting the settlement of Volissos and its Byzantine castle in danger.

Despite the mobilisation of firefighters and the activation of rescEU, the response was deemed to be insufficient¹, resulting in widespread devastation².

In view of the above, the Commission is asked:

1. What measures will it take to enhance rescEU's preparedness and effectiveness in responding to forest fires, especially in high-risk areas such as Chios?
2. What initiatives is it considering taking to support local authorities in restoring the Natura areas affected by the wildfires, with a view to protecting biodiversity and restoring ecosystems?
3. How does it intend to strengthen cooperation between Member States in the effective management of natural disasters, with a focus on emergency prevention, preparedness and response?

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¹ <https://www.iefimerida.gr/ellada/fotia-sti-hio-112-ekkenoseis-oikismon>

² <https://www.ekathimerini.com/news/environment/1278091/fires-stretch-resources-across-greece>