

**Question for written answer E-004779/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sérgio Gonçalves (S&D)

Subject: Access of outermost regions to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism training programme

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism training programme allocates course places through national quotas and requires participants to be nominated by their national training coordinator, which is designated by each Member State. As a result, regional civil protection services, including those of the outermost regions (ORs), cannot apply directly, despite their operational responsibilities and high exposure to recurring natural disasters.

The Commission has repeatedly acknowledged that ORs such as Madeira and the Azores require reinforced preparedness and response capabilities due to their geographic isolation and specific risk profiles.

In this regard:

1. Given that the Commission monitors participation in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism training programme, what assessment does it make regarding the representation and participation levels of experts from the ORs?
2. Does the Commission consider that current access adequately reflects the particular needs and responsibilities of civil protection authorities in these regions?
3. Will the Commission consider creating specific quotas for civil protection services in the ORs?

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