Question for written answer E-000301/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Urgent need for the EU to act immediately to trigger the Solidarity Fund in the light of the extreme weather events in Sicily

Cyclone Harry recently hit Sicily, resulting in heavy and persistent rains and very strong winds, along with massive storm surges featuring waves up to 8-10 metres high.

Over the course of 48 hours, Harry caused widespread destruction on the island, inflicting critical damage on infrastructure, beaches, lidos, residences and many apartment buildings. The damage to public and private property and wealth is significant, as Harry's massive storm surges and persistent rainfall have caused buildings and infrastructure to collapse and resulted in coastal erosion and landslides.

The sheer scale of the devastation has also put many lives at risk, compelling Italy's Civil Protection to intervene and forcing the authorities to enact extraordinary security measures, which include a number of evacuations that were deemed a necessary precaution.

Given that Cyclone Harry has caused damage worth billions, the EU must coordinate a response effort that is up to the task of addressing this emergency and which provides immediate and effective aid to the citizens and businesses affected.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission fully support Sicily, including by activating European Solidarity Fund instruments?

2. Will the Commission allocate extraordinary funds specifically geared towards addressing this emergency with a view to providing effective support to the communities and areas hit by Cyclone Harry?

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