

Question for written answer E-001666/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)

Subject: Supporting primary health and emergency pre-hospital care infrastructure in the mountainous Acheloos Valley

The Acheloos Valley is a remote and inaccessible mountainous area of Greece, on the administrative border of four regional units, and serves residents from four municipalities: Georgios Karaiskakis in Arta, Argithea in Karditsa, Agrafa in Evrytania and the area of the former Municipality of Inachos in Aetolia-Acarnania.

The rugged mountain terrain, the long distances from hospitals and the limited access to health services create difficulties in residents' health coverage and the treatment of emergencies.

The creation of a health centre and a national centre for emergency care [EKAB] station in the wider area could provide health coverage for the population of the four municipalities, reduce the time to access emergency care and contribute to maintaining social cohesion and keeping residents in areas facing demographic decline and desertification.

Given that the European Union recognises, in Article 174 TFEU, the specific needs of mountainous areas and supports access to basic services through cohesion policy, the Commission is asked:

1. How can cohesion policy financial instruments or other programmes be used to support primary health and emergency care infrastructure in remote areas such as the Acheloos Valley?
2. Does the Commission intend to support actions that improve access to basic health services in order to address demographic decline?
3. Can the creation or upgrading of health structures serving more mountainous municipalities be an eligible investment under regional programmes or other European funds?

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