

**Question for written answer E-001804/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catarina Martins (The Left)

Subject: Impact of storm Kristin and assessment of damage

Storm Kristin caused significant damage to several regions of Portugal. A damage-reporting mechanism was subsequently set up to assess the damage and facilitate access to public aid. However, those affected were urged to report the damage at a stage when land and homes were still flooded or under water, particularly in Montemor-o-Velho (Coimbra).

This casts doubt on the reliability of the assessments, since much of the damage was not yet known or had not yet been fully assessed. The premature collection of information makes it harder to assess – and may underestimate – damage, and unduly disqualifies those affected from support mechanisms, including those covered by EU instruments.

It is important to ensure that the assessment criteria and procedures do not end up restricting access to aid for those in need of it.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. Whether it is aware of situations where damage was reported before the effects of the events had stabilised?
2. Whether it considers such practices to be compatible with the principles of good administration and equal access to support?
3. Which European Union instruments can be mobilised to ensure the reassessment of damage?

Submitted: 4.5.2026