

**Question for written answer E-003495/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catarina Martins (The Left)

Subject: Cultural heritage status to preserve Coimbra's student community houses

With their centuries-old tradition of self-management, solidarity and civic participation, Coimbra's repúblicas, or student community houses, are a unique embodiment of the city's academic and cultural life. They are more than mere student residences: these vibrant communities are woven into the academic history of Coimbra, rooted in the area classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The threat of eviction currently hanging over the República das Marias do Loureiro and the República Baco as a result of the university's construction plans is just one example of a wider problem. Other repúblicas face similar threats to their continued existence and so to the preservation of this tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

1. Is the Commission aware of this situation and of the cultural and patrimonial value of Coimbra's repúblicas?
2. Does it think that EU financial instruments could be deployed to support the restoration of these buildings and, at the same time, to ensure the survival of the communities bringing them to life?
3. Is the Commission prepared to identify or make available EU funds for the safeguarding of this cultural heritage?

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