

**Question for written answer E-003720/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
César Luena (S&D)

Subject: New EU water initiative and Water Framework Directive

In her September 2026 State of the Union address, President von der Leyen announced a new EU water initiative, noting growing water scarcity and water's importance for agriculture, energy, industry and food security. The announcement comes a year after the European water resilience strategy was adopted. The strategy sets out over 50 actions to improve water management and places implementation of the Water Framework Directive among its top priorities.

What is more, the Commission had already announced its intention to revise the Water Framework Directive, despite the findings of its previous fitness check.

1. What will be the goal, scope and added value of this initiative in comparison with the 2025 water resilience strategy and existing EU water legislation?
2. How will the initiative relate to the announced revision of the Water Framework Directive?
3. If the Commission sees a need for a new EU initiative to tackle water scarcity, how has it determined that the problem lies in the current water legislation framework rather than implementation, investment and enforcement gaps?

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