

**Priority question for written answer P-003299/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Carmen Crespo Díaz (PPE)

Subject: New measures and aid to combat forest fires

In the summer of 2025, Europe witnessed the dire consequences of wildfires devastating Spain. By late August, the fires had ravaged in excess of 400 000 hectares of forest and caused fatalities and extensive damage to rural infrastructure. Galicia, Castile-Leon, Andalusia, Madrid and Extremadura were particularly hard hit.

Although Spain received considerable international support, the scale of the disaster shows the need to step up the Union Civil Protection Mechanism by equipping rescEU with more aerial resources, permanent resources and preventive and innovative capabilities, including research into new extinction techniques.

1. Is the Commission planning to increase rescEU resources, introduce regulatory changes to make fire-fighting systems operational all year and establish urgent aid for reforestation and a prevention plan with forestry actions, firebreaks and infrastructure, and to step up funding for prevention and for research into new techniques, including fire-fighting night flights?
2. Can the Commission confirm whether the Spanish Government requested that the rescEU plan be activated in a timely and proper manner in response to the fires?

Submitted: 26.8.2025