

**Priority question for written answer P-003705/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Ana Miguel Pedro (PPE)

Subject: Fires in Portugal – extraordinary aid for farmers from the Solidarity Fund

By 23 August 2025, some 248 000 hectares had burned in Portugal, with estimates indicating that the burnt area accounts for 3 % of Portuguese territory.

Of the burnt area, roughly 13 % is agricultural land. In the north and centre of the country, swathes of chestnut, olive and almond groves, vineyards and pastures have been completely destroyed.

Municipalities such as Covilhã (20 257 ha), Sabugal (18 726 ha) and Trancoso (17 239 ha) are among the worst affected. Other serious fires included those in Arganil (60 000 ha burned) and in the Douro Internacional region (12 000 ha destroyed, including 1 000 ha of agricultural land).

The material losses, particularly in the farming and livestock sectors, are still being calculated, but could exceed EUR 30 million.

1. Does the European Commission acknowledge that provisional data indicating hundreds of thousands of hectares burned and a significant portion of agricultural land and municipalities affected, could be grounds for activating the Solidarity Fund?
2. Given the urgent needs of farmers and livestock producers in the affected municipalities, is the Commission willing to coordinate with the Portuguese Government to quickly put the EUSF to use and provide the technical support necessary for it submit an application?

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