

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001533/25**  
**to the Commission**  
**Nikos Pappas (The Left)**  
(15 April 2025)

*Subject:* Cases of childhood malnutrition in Samos

According to recent data released by the organisation Doctors Without Borders, six children, aged between six months and six years, presented severe symptoms of acute malnutrition in the Samos Closed Controlled Access Centre (CCAC) <sup>(1)</sup>. The report highlights the significant deficiencies in paediatric care within the facility, as well as the lack of appropriate nutritional support.

In addition, although the facility is funded by the European Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the planned financial assistance to asylum seekers has been on hold since May 2024, due to problems in the management of the relevant funding by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum. This interruption has left many families unable to meet basic food and hygiene needs for their children.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it intend to help national services to place emergency measures to strengthen health and nutrition services in order to protect the children residing in the Samos CCAC?
2. Does it intend to launch an investigation to determine whether European funds are being used properly, in order to ensure — as provided for by the European Pact on Migration — a dignified standard of living and the unhindered coverage of the basic nutrition and hygiene needs of asylum seekers?

Submitted: 15.4.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission**  
(17 July 2025)

Under Directive 2013/33/EU (the Reception Conditions Directive) <sup>(1)</sup>, the responsibility for managing reception systems rests with the national authorities <sup>(2)</sup>. The Commission follows closely the situation in all Member States and provides technical, operational and financial support, including to Greece.

With regards to the financing of basic nutrition and hygiene needs, Member States are primarily responsible for the sound financial management of EU funds allocated to them.

The Commission retains overall responsibility for the EU budget and carries out controls and audits in Member States to detect and correct possible ineligible expenditure.

The Commission continuously monitors the situation on the Greek islands, in particular as regards the provision of food and medical care, including through visits.

The EU-financed IPPOKRATIS I project <sup>(3)</sup> deploys medical doctors in all multi-purpose reception and identification centres on the islands, including Samos.

The Commission is also aware of the acute delays and their consequences with regards to the provision of cash assistance to applicants for international protection and has recalled this in its regular dialogue with the Greek authorities.

Following the mid-term review of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) <sup>(4)</sup> and the revision of the multi-annual financial framework Greece will also benefit from an additional EUR 103 million under the AMIF to support the needs related to the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum <sup>(5)</sup>, including the improvement of reception conditions <sup>(6)</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://msf.gr/samos-prota-diagnosmena-krousmata-paidikou-yopositismou/>

<sup>(1)</sup> Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast) OJ L 180, 29.6.2013, p. 96-116.

<sup>(2)</sup> This holds true in the new Directive (EU) 2024/1346 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection, OJ L, 2024/1346, 22.5.2024.

<sup>(3)</sup> <https://greece.iom.int/ippokratis-i-provision-medical-and-psychosocial-services-residents-accommodation-facilities-under-responsibility-reception-and-identification-service>.

<sup>(4)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, OJ L 251, 15.7.2021, p. 1-47.

<sup>(5)</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum, COM(2020) 609 final.

<sup>(6)</sup> This support comes on top of the basic allocation of EUR 434 million for Greece under the AMIF for the 2021-2027 period.