

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001729/25
to the Commission
Virginie Joron (PFE)
(30 April 2025)**

Subject: Humanitarian subsidies or incitement to political regime change?

Saudi Arabia finances 1.6% of global development aid, as does Switzerland.

By contrast, in 2023 the Commission and the Member States provided EUR 101 billion, which accounts for 41% of development aid. According to the European Parliament's research service, just 3.8% of this amount was spent on health and 3.3% on water supply and sanitation ⁽¹⁾.

Since 10 March 2025, the Trump presidency has put an end to 83% of the US Agency for International Development's programmes falsely termed as 'humanitarian'.

In these circumstances, it is questionable why Brussels uses the term 'humanitarian' and what the purpose of this aid actually is.

1. How much is the Commission spending on values, democracy and other non-urgent actions outside Europe?
2. Which are the three main humanitarian NGOs funded by the Commission? What is the annual remuneration of their directors?

Submitted: 30.4.2025

**Answer given by Mr Sikela on behalf of the European Commission
(22 July 2025)**

EU funds allocated to development assistance outside the EU, including humanitarian aid, are implemented in accordance with the principle of transparency enshrined in the Financial Regulation ⁽¹⁾ applicable to the EU Budget.

Detailed information on amounts funded are available in the Financial Annexes of the report on the Implementation of the EU's External Action Instruments that the Commission publishes on a yearly basis ⁽²⁾.

These annexes provide a breakdown of the development assistance funding across multiple dimensions. In particular, Table 11B provides a breakdown of disbursements by sector (i.e. the specific area that the aid is intended to support) and by instrument.

The sectorial classification is made in accordance with the categories developed by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The top three humanitarian non-governmental organisations receiving Commission's humanitarian funding are the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC-NO), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC-DK), and the International Rescue Committee (IRC-DE).

In 2024 (financial year), NRC-NO received approximatively EUR 119 million, DRC-DK EUR 86 million, and IRC-DE EUR 62 million of humanitarian funding. The Commission does not receive information regarding the salaries of directors of its partner organisations.

¹ [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2025/769540/EPRS_ATA\(2025\)769540_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2025/769540/EPRS_ATA(2025)769540_EN.pdf)

⁽¹⁾ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/990fe2a6-8f52-11ef-a130-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>.

⁽²⁾ For 2023's activity, the Financial Annexes can be found in Section 8 of the Commission Staff Working Document (SWD(2024) 267 final) accompanying the 2024 Annual Report on the implementation of the European Union's External Action Instruments in 2023 (COM(2024) 548 final); <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=SWD:2024:267:FIN>, <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/bfc002cc-bdca-11ef-91ed-01aa75ed71a1/language-en#:~:text=This%20is%20the%20staff%20working%20document%20accompanying%20the,international%20partnerships%2C%20humanitarian%20aid%2C%20foreign%20policy%20and%20enlargement>.