(English version)

Question for written answer E-002160/25
to the Commission
Barbara Bonte (PfE)
(28 May 2025)

Subject: Redirecting development aid to Armenia

Azerbaijan's war of aggression against the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh led to a mass exodus of Artsakh's indigenous population to Armenia in 2023. That country did not have the resources to house the more than 100 000 refugees in the short term — one in 30 Armenians is a refugee from Artsakh — and provide an economic future.

1. What funding has the Commission provided to help integrate the refugees from Artsakh in Armenia?

2. Has the Commission redirected development aid funds for that purpose?

3. What tangible impact has EU aid had on the problematic housing situation of refugees in Armenia?

Submitted: 28.5.2025

Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(5 August 2025)

The Commission has provided assistance and redirected funds to support the socioeconomic integration of Karabakh Armenians. EUR 21 million were mobilised in humanitarian support, including food and non-food items, cash assistance, winterisation support, primary healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support.

In January 2024, the Commission adopted a EUR 15 million budget support programme under the Resilience and Growth Plan to assist the government of Armenia address the medium and long-term needs of Karabakh Armenians.

In July 2024, this assistance was topped up by EUR 25 million to address housing and employment needs of the displaced population.

Three projects with civil society consortia are also currently ongoing focusing on (i) livelihoods support and socioeconomic integration activities (ii) access to social services and social assistance mechanisms (iii) protection of human rights of refugees.

Moreover, support to Karabakh Armenians has also been streamlined across other activities, for example through the redirection of EUR 8 million to support the displaced and host communities in their business expansion needs, facilitating integration into the Armenian economy through improved access to livelihood opportunities.

EU assistance is supporting the implementation of the government’s housing programme for Karabakh Armenian families, and with payments under the rent and utilities cost compensation programme.

Furthermore, support was provided for the socioeconomic integration activities including facilitating access to the general education, offering partial tuition subsidisation programmes, providing primary healthcare services and enrolling pension age refugees in the national pensions scheme.