

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003203/25
to the Commission
Leire Pajín (S&D)
(7 August 2025)

Subject: Monitoring the implementation of climate measures put forward by the Commission amidst the rise in reported deaths attributable to high temperatures

In July 2025, Spain recorded 101 deaths attributable to high temperatures, an increase from the 67 deaths recorded in July 2024. According to health sources, heat-related deaths in some Mediterranean provinces such as Alicante have quadrupled.

In light of the growing impact of climate change, the Commission published an assessment of climate risks in March 2024 and noted that heat stress was the biggest and most urgent climate risk to public health, with the institution pledging to adopt stronger measures to protect its citizens.

One year later, could the Commission please answer the following:

1. What actions have been implemented to strengthen the European Climate and Health Observatory in order to improve education, monitoring and warning systems to tackle climate risks?
2. How have the various monitoring and alert systems (Copernicus, Galileo, EGNOS and Meteosat) been integrated to ensure that climate threats are managed more effectively and with more coordination?
3. Have good practices been identified in relation to the coordination and sharing of responsibilities with Member States that allow for better governance in the face of climate-related health risks?

Submitted: 7.8.2025

Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(9 October 2025)

1. Monitoring, anticipating and educating Europe's health community on climate-related health risks are amongst the key strategic objectives of the European Climate and Health Observatory ⁽¹⁾. Completed work under the Observatory includes the publication of a briefing on health surveillance and preparedness in Europe in November 2024 ⁽²⁾, the updating of the European Climate Data Explorer health apps related to heat waves ⁽³⁾, and several education and capacity-building actions targeting the public health workforce ⁽⁴⁾.
2. Alert systems are a primary responsibility of Member States, and the EU has a supporting role. The data of EU developed systems ⁽⁵⁾ can be used to support monitoring, forecasting, and early warning of climate-related hazards managed under the Copernicus Emergency Management Services (CEMS). The EU is also working on developing heat early warning systems to forecast heatwaves and their impacts at European and global levels. These services benefit directly from weather satellite data streams, such as Meteosat.
3. The EU is developing the Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service, which will provide an additional channel to Member States to send warning messages to the population via satellites. Improving early warning systems and enhancing their integration with monitoring and alerting systems is a key action of the Preparedness Union Strategy ⁽⁶⁾. The regulation on serious cross-border threats to health ⁽⁷⁾ strengthens coordination and cooperation in relation to serious cross-border health threats, including ones linked to climate. The Commission plans to adopt a framework for climate resilience in late 2026 ⁽⁸⁾. This framework is envisaged to establish a more ambitious and comprehensive approach to climate risks and impacts.

⁽¹⁾ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/observatory/About>.

⁽²⁾ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/publications/the-impacts-of-heat-on-health>.

⁽³⁾ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/knowledge/european-climate-data-explorer/health>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/metadata/organisations/association-schools-public-health-in-european-region-aspher>.

⁽⁵⁾ E.g. from Copernicus, Galileo and EGNOS (European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service).

⁽⁶⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/preparedness_en.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022R2371>.

⁽⁸⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14770-European-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework_en.