

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003523/25
to the Commission
Michalis Hadjipantela (PPE)
(11 September 2025)**

Subject: European aerial firefighting hub in Cyprus

in her State of the Union address, the President of the Commission made a welcome announcement: the establishment of a new European aerial firefighting hub in Cyprus, with the potential to support neighbouring countries, in order to strengthen of the Union's resilience and response to forest fires.

In light of the above, can the Commission say:

1. How will the hub be staffed and equipped — including ground and aerial resources, firefighters and other equipment — to ensure the hub's proper operation and its contribution to rapid fire response?
2. What is the preliminary timeline for the implementation of the project, and when it will be at full operational capability?

Submitted: 11.9.2025

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(28 November 2025)**

In the 2025 State of the Union address, the President of the Commission proposed to create a European firefighting hub based in Cyprus ⁽¹⁾.

At this early stage, the Commission is exploring various options and discussing the hub's structure and operation in liaison with Cyprus and other stakeholders.

As regards staffing and equipment, the specific details are still under consideration. The Commission is evaluating potential contributions of aerial resources and firefighters. The goal is to coordinate closely with Cypriot authorities to ensure the hub can operate effectively.

A preliminary timeline is currently under discussion and progress will depend on the overall ambition of all stakeholders involved and defining specific details.

The Commission is committed to maintaining constructive dialogue with all relevant parties and will continue to update the European Parliament as more information becomes available.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/state-union/state-union-2025_en#:~:text=In%20her%20State%20of%20the%20Union%20speech%20on,progress%20the%20EU%20has%20made%20in%20recent%20years.