

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003531/25
to the Commission
Georgios Aftias (PPE)
(15 September 2025)

Subject: Equal funding for Greece's borders in relation to the rest of Europe's eastern border

The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, recently addressed the need to support the EU's eastern borders. It goes without saying that any European funding for border protection and guarding should also pertain to the eastern and southern borders of Greece, which span from Evros to Kastellorizo and from Kastellorizo to Crete.

As a member of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Committee on Budgets, I have repeatedly stressed the importance of this issue, as Türkiye has not lifted its *casus belli* against Greece. At the same time, Türkiye is targeting my country with actions outside international law, such as the illegal Turkish-Libyan memorandum of understanding. What is more, in 2024 the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs recognised for the first time the need to protect and guard Europe's eastern borders.

In this context, it is worth noting that the threat does not only come from Russia. Türkiye threatens the territorial integrity of Greece, directly or indirectly, on a continuous basis, as also expressed by representatives of the Turkish State.

In view of the above, can the European Commission say:

1. Will all eastern European borders be funded as a whole?
2. Given the urgent need to safeguard Europe in its entirety, will it provide corresponding funding for the EU's south-eastern borders, so that they can be strengthened equitably to those in the north?

Submitted: 15.9.2025

Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(15 December 2025)

Protecting EU external borders in their entirety is an utmost priority for the Commission and a responsibility of all Member States.

The Commission provides funding to Member States through the Border Management and Visa Policy Instrument (BMVI) ⁽¹⁾, which contributes to supporting effective European integrated border management at the external borders.

The Commission can also allocate funding from the BMVI thematic facility ⁽²⁾ to finance additional operations in Member States. Furthermore, Greek border management authorities and other organisations are actively participating in the EU programme on innovation on security, including border management, and have received over EUR 300 million of funding, including over EUR 40 million dedicated to border management innovation.

Since 2015, Greece has received more than EUR 1.5 billion from the Internal Security Fund — Borders and Visa ⁽³⁾ and BMVI to support the management of its borders, which are the EU's external borders.

Greece would also receive additional funding for the purposes of the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum ⁽⁴⁾, including funding for the screening of third-country nationals crossing the external borders in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1356 ⁽⁵⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing, as part of the Integrated Border Management Fund, the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.

⁽²⁾ The support can take the form of EU actions, specific actions or emergency assistance. For more info: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/funding/borders-and-visa-funds/integrated-border-management-fund-border-management-and-visa-instrument-2021-27_en.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for external borders and visa.

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3161.

⁽⁵⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1356 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 introducing the screening of third-country nationals at the external borders and amending Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/817.