(English version)

Question for written answer E-004049/25
to the Commission
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)
(15 October 2025)

Subject: 'Hidden hunger' and food insecurity in Greece — Need for immediate action

According to a 2024 survey on food insecurity by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), around 7% of the Greek population faced moderate or severe food insecurity ([1]), while 1.6% faced solely severe insecurity ([2]). These figures remain high and persistently exceed those of previous years.

That being said, the EU has put in place social support programmes such as the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) ([3]).

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What immediate action will it take to help Greece tackle this 'hidden hunger'?

2. Will European programmes be supported or extended with a specific timeframe and quantitative targets for access to food for the most vulnerable households?

3. What mechanisms are in place to assess the effectiveness of EU measures and how will the Commission ensure that these measures do in fact contribute to addressing food insecurity in Greece?

Submitted: 15.10.2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(16 December 2025)

In the 2021-2027 period, the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) supports EU countries' actions that, among others, provide food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived and address material deprivation challenges, in line with the principles enshrined in the provisions of Regulation 2021/1057 ([1]).

In Greece, material assistance actions are part of the ESF+ Human Resources and Social Cohesion 2021-2027 (HRSC) Programme, with an allocation of EUR 400 million to be used until 2029 for the provision of food aid and/or material assistance to the most deprived.

The measures are implemented by the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family under the direct supervision the Managing Authority for the HRSC Programme and consist of distribution of food of high nutritional value adapted to the beneficiary's nutritional background as well as material assistance for hygiene, cleaning and living, related to the target group served. The foreseen measures are currently in contracting phase.

ESF+ social inclusion measures in Greece are implemented under shared management. It is the responsibility of the Member State to ensure that the operations delivered on the ground are well targeted and best support vulnerable groups.

In this respect there are reliable mechanisms and assurance models in place, for the overall management and evaluation of the performance of the measures to support vulnerable persons in Greece in the 2021-2027 programming period.

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1 https://www.ot.gr/2025/10/07/epikairothta/elstat-to-7-antimetopise-metria-i-sovari-aneparkeia-trofis-to-2024
2 https://www.businessdaily.gr/elstat
3 https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/funding/fund-european-aid-most-deprived-fead
([1]) Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013.