

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004459/25
to the Commission
Nikolas Farantouris (The Left)
(11 November 2025)**

Subject: Need for more action on climate, environment and biodiversity and to protect vulnerable populations and regions

The European Environment Agency's State of the Environment ⁽¹⁾ report shows that, despite progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, the overall state of Europe's environment is precarious. Nature continues to suffer from degradation, overexploitation and biodiversity loss, while the impacts of accelerating climate change remain an urgent challenge. Only two of the EU's 22 2030 targets are 'on track', nine are considered 'off track' and the rest show mixed trends. At the same time, the average annual economic losses related to extreme weather events in the period 2020-2023 are 2.5 times higher than in the decade 2010-2019 (losses of over EUR 162 billion in the three-year period 2021-2023 alone). As the EEA underlines, the outlook for most environmental trends is worrying and poses serious risks to economic prosperity, security and quality of life in Europe.

Accordingly:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to strengthen action on climate, environment and biodiversity and to address the multiple challenges identified in the EEA report?
2. How does the Commission intend to help Member States address more specific challenges, such as the inability to adapt to increasing extreme weather events?
3. What measures does the Commission intend to take to target support for and protect the most vulnerable regions and populations?

Submitted: 11.11.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(5 January 2026)**

The European Green Deal ⁽¹⁾ provides an ambitious framework for tackling climate, environmental and biodiversity challenges. It is now being implemented ⁽²⁾.

Over the last year, the Commission has presented several initiatives aimed at lowering emissions, phasing out fossil fuels and materials, and reducing the Union's environmental footprint while strengthening economic resilience.

The European Environment Agency's (EEA) report gives an overview of the situation and tracks progress to support decision-making.

In 2026 the Commission will continue to update key climate legislation to prepare for climate targets and obligations after 2030 and will, for example, present a Circular Economy Act to transform the EU's economy.

The Commission will also prepare a new European integrated framework for climate resilience ⁽³⁾. Several funding programmes and initiatives support investments in flood protection, drought management, resilient infrastructure, and nature-based solutions. A relevant example is the EU initiative on wildfire prevention ⁽⁴⁾.

Several instruments support this work, including the European Forest Fire Information System, the Expert Group on Forest Fires, and the Emergency Response Coordination Centre.

EU funds such as the Cohesion Fund ⁽⁵⁾, the Social Climate Fund ⁽⁶⁾, and the Recovery and Resilience Facility ⁽⁷⁾ prioritise resilience-building and support for vulnerable groups.

Vulnerability and risk assessments ⁽⁸⁾ help target investments where climate impacts, environmental pressures, and social inequalities intersect.

¹ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/newsroom/news/state-of-europes-environment-2025/greece-eea25-press-release-greek.pdf/@download/file>

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/competitiveness/clean-industrial-deal_en, https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/bioeconomy-strategy_en.

⁽³⁾ The framework will include a legislative proposal and several supporting and enabling elements. More details can be found in the Open Public Consultation on the Commission's 'Have your say' portal, https://have-your-say.ec.europa.eu/index_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/forests/forest-fires_en#:~:text=The%20Expert%20Group%20on%20Forest%20Fires%20helps%20the,Mechanism%20coordinates%20pan-European%20assistance%20in%20times%20of%20crises.

⁽⁵⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/cohesion-fund_en.

⁽⁶⁾ https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/funding/social-climate-fund_en.

⁽⁷⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/economic-recovery/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en.

⁽⁸⁾ including those from the EEA.

The EU Adaptation Strategy ⁽⁹⁾ and the upcoming European Integrated Framework for Climate Resilience further reinforce the focus on vulnerable groups and regions.

⁽⁹⁾ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-and-resilience-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy_en.