

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000189/26
to the Commission
Georgios Aftias (PPE)
(19 January 2026)**

Subject: Completion of funding for the Evros fence

Due to its geographical location at the south-easternmost point of the European Union, Greece is on the front line of European external border protection. Its land and sea borders are under constant, intense migratory pressure, which has increased significantly in recent years. An increased influx of illegal migrants has been recorded in recent years in Evros, the North Aegean, as well as Crete and Gavdos, areas of critical strategic importance for the security of the EU. The Evros region is being used by Türkiye to instrumentalise migration flows, posing serious challenges to both national and European security, with the events of 2020-2021 being a case in point. Greece is being asked to secure European borders in an effective manner, acting as a guardian of European security and cohesion. This means that there needs to be a concrete European funding initiative to complete the construction of the Evros fence.

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

1. Will it finance the completion and strengthening of the Evros fence, while recognising it as a project of the highest European importance for the protection of Greek and European borders?
2. Will the EU's upcoming multiannual budget for 2028-2034 provide for targeted financial tools to safeguard and upgrade security infrastructure in countries on the front line of European border protection?

Submitted: 19.1.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(18 March 2026)**

The protection of EU external borders is a high priority for the Commission. Greece has been allocated more than EUR 1.7 billion through the previous and current instruments for financial support for external borders and visa ⁽¹⁾ and the Border Management and Visa Policy Instrument (BMVI) ⁽²⁾ to support the management of its borders, including measures at the EU external border in Evros.

The Commission has so far focused funding where the needs are the most urgent and where EU funding provides real added value.

This has included financing for mobile and stationary units, border surveillance systems and equipment, refurbishment of border crossing points, new installations for IT systems, plus the maintenance of equipment.

Going forward, and following the trend observed in the last years, it is clear that the overall needs for border management must be reassessed as part of the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

With this in mind, in July 2025, the Commission presented its proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2028-2034, which include a proposal for a regulation for the Schengen area, for European integrated border management and for the common policy on visas ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 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.

⁽²⁾ 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.

⁽³⁾ COM/2025/541 Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union support for the Schengen area, for European integrated border management and for the common policy on visas for the period 2028 to 2034.