

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000354/26
to the Commission
Per Clausen (The Left)
(28 January 2026)**

Subject: EU-wide strategy for islands

1. In the context of developing the EU-wide strategy for islands and coastal communities envisaged for the 2026 Commission work programme, how does the Commission intend to ensure that people living on islands are meaningfully involved in defining the strategy's framework?
2. In particular, will the Commission commit to organising dedicated consultations such as online hearings, workshops or structured dialogues, specifically targeted at the people living on islands or non-governmental organisations representing islanders, such as the European Small Islands Federation?
3. Furthermore, how will the Commission ensure that small islands are explicitly recognised within the strategy as having specific conditions and challenges when compared with larger islands?

Submitted: 28.1.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(27 March 2026)**

Island inhabitants are invited to be involved in defining the strategy's framework through a public call for evidence, which was launched on 4 March 2026.

This consultation provides an opportunity to contribute views on the challenges faced by EU islands and propose concrete solutions to these challenges.

The call, which runs until 1 April 2026, is open to everyone with particular encouragement for contributions from island-based stakeholders, including local and regional authorities responsible for islands, community and grassroots organisations, youth networks, business associations and other civil society actors. Inputs received will contribute to shaping the strategy.

The strategy will cover the EU islands of all sizes. Existing studies, contributions received during consultation and opinions from the Consultative Committees will be taken into account to ensure that the strategy reflects the diverse situations and challenges EU islands face.

The EU Strategy for Coastal Communities, which will focus on coastal communities, will be adopted together with the EU Strategy for Islands.
