

EN
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Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.3.2026)

From the onset, the Commission, through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)¹, has been in continuous contact with the Portuguese civil protection authorities. Through the ERCC, Portugal has proactively activated the Copernicus Emergency Management Service Rapid Mapping², which provided satellite mapping, supporting the response efforts on the ground.

The Commission has actively used the European Flood Awareness System³ and scientific multi-hazard early warning and monitoring services⁴, to anticipate necessary support.

Any country can request assistance through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, in the event of a disaster that exceeds its national capacities⁵. Portugal's national authorities have not requested such assistance for Storm Kristin.

¹ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/emergency-response-coordination-centre-ercc_en.

² <https://mapping.emergency.copernicus.eu/>.

³ It provides forecast and disseminates notifications for potential flooding.

⁴ Through the ARISTOTLE Scientific Partnership, a consortium of meteorological and geophysical institutes across Europe.

⁵ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism_en.