(English version)

Question for written answer E-001517/26
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(14 April 2026)

Subject: Pooling natural disaster risks

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions (EIOPA) and the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) have published a joint paper proposing the creation of an EU risk pooling mechanism for natural disasters: a common pool funded by insurers and, where applicable, national schemes, and a public safety net or backstop based on loans for extreme events with an estimated capacity of between EUR 10 billion and EUR 65 billion. The aim is to close the gap between economic losses and insured losses in the EU, which is considerable in some Member States.

In view of the proposal:

1. What plans does the Commission have to set up an EU mechanism of this type?

2. If it intends to create such a mechanism, what options is the Commission considering (voluntary pool, participation of national schemes, backstop model) and what role does it foresee for the competent European authorities?

3. How does the Commission intend to coordinate this potential initiative with climate adaptation and risk prevention policies to prevent broader insurance coverage replacing risk reduction or creating negative incentives?

Submitted: 14.4.2026

Answer given by Ms Albuquerque on behalf of the European Commission
(3 July 2026)

Across Europe, physical climate risks are on the rise, as the climate-related events are becoming more frequent and severe, affecting insurance markets through premiums, coverage conditions and widening protection gaps.

This raises important policy questions regarding prevention, risk awareness, insurance affordability and compensation mechanisms.

The Commission is closely following developments and discussions on broader insurance coverage at both national and EU level recognising that they are complementary to key measures promoting risk reduction and climate adaptation and resilience.

In this context the discussion paper of the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) and the European Stability Mechanism provides a useful in-depth assessment.

Against this background, in the context of the ongoing work on the European integrated framework for climate resilience, the Commission has launched a public consultation covering a broad range of topics, including insurance.

The contributions received from stakeholders will help inform the Commission's reflection on possible future policy initiatives. The factual summary of the feedback was published on the Have Your Say website ([1]):

([1]) https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14770-European-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework/public-consultation_en.