

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002646/26
to the Commission
Leire Pajín (S&D)
(25 June 2026)**

Subject: EU assistance following the earthquakes in Venezuela

Two earthquakes — with magnitudes of 7.2 and 7.5 and separated by just 39 seconds — shook northern Venezuela this Wednesday and were also felt in Caracas. The Venezuelan authorities have declared a state of emergency, in the light of collapsed buildings, damage to critical infrastructure, disruption to transport and a possible rise in the number of casualties. A number of countries in the region and Spain have already offered assistance.

In view of this situation:

1. What type of humanitarian, medical or logistical support does the Commission plan to send or fund to help those affected by the earthquakes in Venezuela?
2. Is the Commission prepared to activate the EU Civil Protection Mechanism if Venezuela so requests to make sure EU assistance reaches the country in a swift, effective and coordinated manner and responds to needs on the ground?
3. How is the Commission coordinating with the Member States to deliver humanitarian aid to meet the population's needs arising from the emergency, such as temporary accommodation, food distribution, and health and hygiene measures to prevent the spread of diseases?

Submitted: 25.6.2026

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(12 August 2026)**

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) was activated on 25 June 2026 following Venezuela's request. Through the UCPM, around 750 responders and experts, as well as relief items, have been mobilised from 18 countries.

This includes rescue teams, medicines, shelter and a satellite telecommunication platform. The EU's Copernicus ⁽¹⁾ satellite service also provided emergency mapping to support operations on the ground. A European Civil Protection Team ⁽²⁾ was deployed to strengthen coordination efforts on the ground.

On 15 July 2026, the Commission announced an additional emergency funding of EUR 20 million ⁽³⁾ to support the response to this crisis, in the week that the Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management visited Venezuela to show EU solidarity.

This adds to the EUR 5 million ⁽⁴⁾ life-saving assistance already approved at the end of June, and to the EUR 52 million allocated at the beginning of the year to respond to the humanitarian consequences of the socioeconomic crisis in Venezuela ⁽⁵⁾.

The Commission is ensuring that ongoing cooperation projects strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus in the current post-earthquake context.

Also, three EU Humanitarian Air Bridge flights brought nearly 150 tonnes of essential supplies. Additional flights are planned for the coming weeks.

EU humanitarian aid is channelled through partners including United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organisations, within the established humanitarian coordination architecture led by the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator.

For UCPM support, the Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre coordinates with Member States and the Venezuelan authorities to facilitate the delivery of assistance.

⁽¹⁾ <https://mapping.emergency.copernicus.eu/activations/EMSR884/>.

⁽²⁾ 10 experts, 1 Emergency Response Coordination Centre Liaison Officer and 1 Rapid Response Coordinator.

⁽³⁾ EUR 10 million in humanitarian funding to help the most affected communities and EUR 10 million, subject to the approval of the Budgetary Authority, to support the search and rescue, medical and other expert teams' operations, along with in-kind assistance deployed in the country.

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/mex_26_1476.

⁽⁵⁾ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/where/latin-america-and-caribbean/venezuela_en.