

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002771/26
to the Commission
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)
(3 July 2026)**

Subject: Making the most of the European strategy for islands and coastal communities

On 10 June 2026, the Commission presented the first dedicated EU strategies for islands and coastal communities, recognising that these regions face particular pressures when it comes to transport, energy, housing, climate resilience and access to services. The initiative is a move in the right direction, especially for Greece, where insularity is not an exception but a key element of national cohesion.

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

1. Does it intend to ask the Greek Government for a comprehensive national plan for the implementation of the strategy for the Greek islands, with clear projects, a timeline and result indicators?
2. How will it ensure that European funding is not limited to piecemeal projects, but supports permanent needs such as health, water, coastal shipping, energy and housing?
3. Will special care be taken to ensure that island development does not turn into a tourism monoculture to the detriment of residents, fishers and producers?

Submitted: 3.7.2026

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

The EU strategy for islands ⁽¹⁾ establishes a coordinated policy framework, through EU actions and recommendations to better steer EU support and national policies for islands.

The strategy does not require Member States to submit implementation plans. However, the Commission will maintain a dialogue with the competent authorities to support reflecting the needs of islands in the implementation of relevant EU policies at national and regional levels.

The strategy foresees continuation of the support to Member States and island authorities through the Technical Support Instrument, TAIEX-REGIO Peer2Peer, the European Urban Initiative, the Clean Energy for EU Islands, and regular technical dialogues to facilitate simplification and exchange of good practices and reduce administrative burden.

The Commission will support Member States in tailoring and implementing reforms and investments addressing the needs of islands in the future National and Regional Partnership Plans ⁽²⁾.

In Greece, in the programming period 2021-2027 the regional programmes ⁽³⁾ allocate significant resources to integrated territorial strategies in island areas, combining investments in sustainable resource management, climate change adaptation, urban mobility and social actions.

The GR-eco islands initiative in particular, which is explicitly referred to in the strategy, supports the energy transition and sustainable development of small islands ensuring that island development does not turn into a tourism monoculture.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2026) 520 final.

⁽²⁾ COM(2025) 565 final.

⁽³⁾ https://www.espa.gr/el/pages/Programmes_2021-2027.aspx.