

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001717/24  
to the Commission  
Łukasz Kohut (PPE)  
(15 September 2024)**

*Subject:* The need for immediate assistance from the EU Civil Protection Mechanism

The recent period of continuous rainfall has led to a critical situation in many regions of Poland. The Silesian, Lower Silesian and Opole *voivodeships* have been facing severe flooding. Many people have been displaced and properties have been severely damaged.

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism is designed to provide shared resources in response to disasters. The EU is therefore obliged to act. Given the current circumstances, the EU's capacities must be activated as soon as possible, with close cooperation between national and local authorities being essential.

1. Can the Commission immediately activate resources from the EU Civil Protection Mechanism?
2. How much time will be required to deliver the necessary equipment and personnel to assist in addressing this crisis? The Commission should take immediate action.

Submitted: 15.9.2024

**Answer given by Mr Lenarčič on behalf of the European Commission  
(23 October 2024)**

When a disaster occurs, the affected country can request assistance via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) <sup>(1)</sup>.

On 13 September 2024, Poland pro-actively activated the Rapid Mapping of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service <sup>(2)</sup> for floods. On 18 September 2024, Poland activated the UCPM and requested support to strengthen its response to the floods.

Austria, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Lithuania, Sweden and Slovenia have immediately offered parts of the requested items. Austria, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania and Sweden, have already delivered them to Poland. The transport arrangements for the remaining items are ongoing. In addition, the EU's strategic reserve, rescEU <sup>(3)</sup>, has been mobilised to complete the offers.

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<sup>(1)</sup> [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism_en)

<sup>(2)</sup> <https://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/ems/rapid-mapping-portfolio>

<sup>(3)</sup> [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en)