

**Question for written answer E-001880/2024/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Sakis Arnaoutoglou (S&D)**

**Subject:** Supporting small Greek islands through EU funds and improving technical support structures

Greece's small islands, along with the EU's other small islands, face specific challenges such as geographical isolation, limited infrastructure and services, demographic pressure and the effects of climate change. At the same time, however, these challenges also present unique opportunities for growth through the exploitation of the islands' natural and cultural heritage. Despite all efforts, small islands often lack the technical support they need to make the most of European funds and this has a negative impact on their growth and economic stability.

In view of the above and bearing in mind the need for small islands to develop sustainably by 2040, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Given the lack of sufficient technical support structures on small islands, what structures or mechanisms does the Commission intend to develop or propose to help these areas strengthen their ability to claim and absorb EU funds?
2. In what ways can the EU boost programmes and investments aimed at the sustainable development of small islands, ensuring that infrastructure, transport and digital connectivity are upgraded with a view to improving the living conditions and economic prospects of the islands' inhabitants?

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