







Procedure file

Basic information		
BUD - Budgetary procedure	2023/0297(BUD)	Procedure completed
Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Romania and Italy in relation to natural disasters in 2022 and to Türkiye in relation to the earthquakes in February 2023		
Subject 3.70.11 Natural disasters, Solidarity Fund 8.70.53 2023 budget		
Geographical area Romania Italy Turkey		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Budgets	 CSEH Katalin	22/08/2023
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 FERNANDES José Manuel	
		 RZOŃCA Bogdan	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Regional Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
23/08/2023	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2023)0381	Summary
11/09/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/09/2023	Vote in committee		
20/09/2023	Budgetary report tabled for plenary	A9-0269/2023	
04/10/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
04/10/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0341/2023	Summary

04/10/2023	Draft budget approved by Council		
16/10/2023	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2023/0297(BUD)
Procedure type	BUD - Budgetary procedure
Procedure subtype	Mobilisation of funds
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/9/13080

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2023)0381	23/08/2023	EC	Summary
Amendments tabled in committee		PE752.788	07/09/2023	EP	
Committee draft report		PE752.755	11/09/2023	EP	
Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 1st reading		A9-0269/2023	20/09/2023	EP	
Budgetary text adopted by Parliament		T9-0341/2023	04/10/2023	EP	Summary

Final act
Decision 2023/2192 OJ L 000 16.10.2023, p. 0000

Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Romania and Italy in relation to natural disasters in 2022 and to Türkiye in relation to the earthquakes in February 2023

PURPOSE: to mobilise the European Union Solidarity Fund to assist Romania and Italy following natural disasters in 2022, and Turkey following earthquakes in February 2023.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council.

BACKGROUND: the European Union Solidarity Fund, set up by Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, aims to enable the Union to respond in a rapid, efficient and flexible manner to emergency situations in order to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by major or regional natural disasters or major public health emergency.

- On 6 September 2022, Romania submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following the drought in the summer of 2022. The Romanian authorities estimate the total direct damage caused by the disaster at EUR 1.31 billion. Romania estimated the cost of operations eligible at EUR 34.69 million and presented it broken down by type of operation. The largest share of the cost of emergency operations (over EUR 22.35 million) concerns rescue services, including firefighting actions, supply of water to the population and to the affected agricultural fields.

- On 8 December 2022, Italy submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following the flood in the Marche Region in September 2022. The Italian authorities estimate the total direct damage caused by the disaster at EUR 837.56 million. Italy estimated the cost of operations eligible at EUR 169.07 million and presented it broken down by type of operation. The largest share of the cost of emergency operations (over EUR 67.57 million) concerns temporary accommodation and rescue services.

- On 20 April 2023, Türkiye submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following the earthquakes in February 2023. The Turkish authorities estimate the total direct damage caused by the disaster at EUR 81.7 billion. Türkiye estimated the cost of operations eligible at EUR 15.109 billion and presented it broken down by type of operation. The largest share of the cost of emergency operations (EUR 9.1 billion) concerns restoration to working order of infrastructure in the fields of health, education, transportation, and others.

The above-mentioned applications meet the conditions for providing a financial contribution from the Fund.

CONTENT: this proposed decision covers the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF) in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 for an amount of EUR 454 835 030 to provide assistance to Romania and Italy in relation to the natural disasters that took place in these countries in 2022 and to Türkiye in relation to the earthquakes in February 2023.

For the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2023, the European Union Solidarity Fund will be mobilised as follows in commitment and payment appropriations in relation to natural disasters:

- the amount of EUR 33 895 935 will be provided to Romania in relation to the drought in summer 2022;
- the amount of EUR 20 939 095 will be provided to Italy in relation to the flood in the Marche Region in September 2022;
- the amount of EUR 400 000 000 will be provided to Türkiye in relation to the earthquakes in February 2023.

This mobilisation is accompanied by DEC No 10/2023 that proposes to transfer the amount of EUR 446 836 375 from the Solidarity and Emergency Aid Reserve line to the EUSF operational budget line, both in commitments and payments.

In addition to the transferred appropriations from the SEAR reserve line, this mobilisation will be financed through the use of the amount of EUR 7 998 655 in commitments and payment appropriations already inscribed in the General Budget 2023.

Mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund: assistance to Romania and Italy in relation to natural disasters in 2022 and to Türkiye in relation to the earthquakes in February 2023

The European Parliament adopted by 593 votes to 11, with 22 abstentions, a resolution on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund to assist Romania and Italy following natural disasters in 2022 and Turkey following earthquakes in February 2023.

Parliament approved the decision to mobilise, within the framework of the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2023, the following amounts from the European Union Solidarity Fund in connection with natural disasters:

- EUR 33 895 935 for Romania in connection with the drought in summer 2022;
- EUR 20 939 095 for Italy in connection with the floods in the Marche region in September 2022;
- EUR 400 000 000 to Turkey in connection with the earthquakes in February 2023.

Parliament welcomed this decision as a concrete and visible expression of the Union's solidarity with its citizens and the regions in Romania, Italy and Turkey affected by the earthquakes. It reiterated the importance of informing the public of the tangible benefits of the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF).

Stressing that extreme weather events will increase in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change, and that the EUSF is only a curative instrument, Members called on the EU to redouble its efforts to combat climate change both within the Union and globally.

The Solidarity and Emergency Aid Reserve (SEAR) is constantly exhausted and does therefore not enough to compensate the consequences of man-made and natural disasters particularly disasters related to climate change. Parliament reiterated that the available resources for EUSF should be increased substantially as part of the mid-term revision of the multiannual financial framework and urged the Commission to increase the budget of the Solidarity and Emergency Aid Reserve (SEAR) and to substantially reinforce the annual budget of the EUSF.

The Commission is urged to come forward with a model for faster and timely mobilisation of the EUSF including the treatment of the applications, so as to allow the relevant authorities to address the restoration needs as soon as possible. It stressed the urgent need to release financial assistance through the EUSF to ensure that support can reach the affected regions in a timely manner and provide the necessary assistance for the operations concerned, as requested by the Member States, such as for infrastructure rehabilitation, rescue services, including firefighting actions, restoration of the affected agricultural areas and provision of water.