



Brussels, 22nd January 2020

For the attention of: **Mrs. Elisa Ferreira, European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms**

*Subject: EU solidarity with the victims of the storm Gloria*

Dear Commissioner Ferreira,

As you might know, the squall Gloria has heavily hit the Iberian Peninsula, notably in the Mediterranean coast. Substantial flooding and strong breezes have caused fatalities; people reported missing; the destruction of natural areas of great environmental value like the Ebro River Delta as well as several damages to crucial infrastructure.

In the event of major disasters like storm Gloria, the EU has the opportunity to show its solidarity with the population of disaster-stricken regions. In this context, the European Union Solidarity Fund provides financial assistance to contribute to a rapid return to normal living conditions. We are aware that it is only at a request of a Member State that the assistance from the Fund may be mobilised. However, we would like to formally request the Commission to promptly assess the situation in order to expediting the response to this disaster. This will send clear message to the population affected by the storm, especially to the direct victims, that the EU is ready to support when disasters happen.

Finally, the effects of climate change are evident and are only going to become more pronounced. The EU must play a crucial role in shaping the common answer to this global threat but also in fighting the effects of the climate emergency. It would stress that the inaction approaches us to the climate disaster and would show that the Climate Agenda is at the core of the Commission political action, as most of the EU citizens want.

Yours sincerely,

**Manu Pineda, Sira Rego, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, Miguel Urbán, Idoia Villanueva, Ernest Urtasun.**

Members of the European Parliament