

Floods and Impact on Climate

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party, convening in Estoril, Portugal on October 4-6, 2024:

Notes that:

- Europe is increasingly affected by extreme weather; most recently Central and Eastern Europe, in particular Austria, Czechia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, has been impacted by floods that have resulted in human casualties and large-scale damage;
- the European continent is warming faster than other parts of the world according to the IPCC, with a temperature increase of 2°C in 2019 compared to the pre-industrial era, while the global average temperature rise is 1.2°C;
- the climate crisis is having increasingly dramatic effects on ecosystems, human populations and peoples' livelihoods; and extreme weather events are increasing in magnitude and severity;
- natural disasters have a negative long-term impact on economic, social and territorial cohesion in different areas, regions and Member States of the EU;
- floods, droughts, wildfires and other extreme weather events create major challenges for many economic sectors, in particular the agricultural sector, and therefore our food security.

Expresses:

- its deepest sympathy to the victims and their families in all the countries affected and gratitude to all professionals, volunteers and authorities who provided help and assistance;
- its deep concern over the increasing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events in the EU and globally.

Calls for:

- a strong commitment by the EU and Member States to keep the Paris Agreement goals in reach by a swift implementation and scaling-up of national efforts on climate mitigation;
- ambitious climate adaptation legislation and a strong focus on nature, to make the EU more resilient to the effects of climate change;
- investments in climate adaptation and disaster prevention and preparedness to be included in the EU Preparedness Union Strategy and a further focus of the EU's future cohesion policy on climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- the Commission to better address the impact of these climate-related hazards on food production, food security and farmers' incomes.