



EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

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rescEU: A STRONGER COLLECTIVE EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO DISASTERS PROTECTING CITIZENS IN TIMES OF NEED

The European Union is facing more and more disasters. From floods and storms, to forest fires and earthquakes, all countries are at risk. 2017 has been a particularly tragic year with **over 200 people losing their lives**. The economic costs are huge: **close to €10 billion in damages** on the European continent were recorded in 2016. Much of these costs could be avoided if damage was prevented and societies better prepared.

TIME FOR CHANGE

In November 2017 the Commission proposed **rescEU** – a new European system to tackle natural disasters to strengthen the EU's civil protection response. rescEU will create a reserve at European level of civil protection capabilities such as aerial forest fighting planes, special water pumps, urban search and rescue and field hospitals and emergency medical teams. These will complement national assets and will be managed by the European Commission in order to support countries hit by disasters such as floods, forest fires, earthquakes and epidemics.



NEXT EU BUDGET

To set up the new rescEU system and strengthen EU civil protection response to protect citizens, the Commission proposes a significant increase of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism budget, from €577 in 2014-2020 to **€1,4 billion in 2021-2027**.



Visit of Commissioner Stylianides to Portugal, 13 February 2017



Christos Stylianides at the Emergency Response Coordination Centre



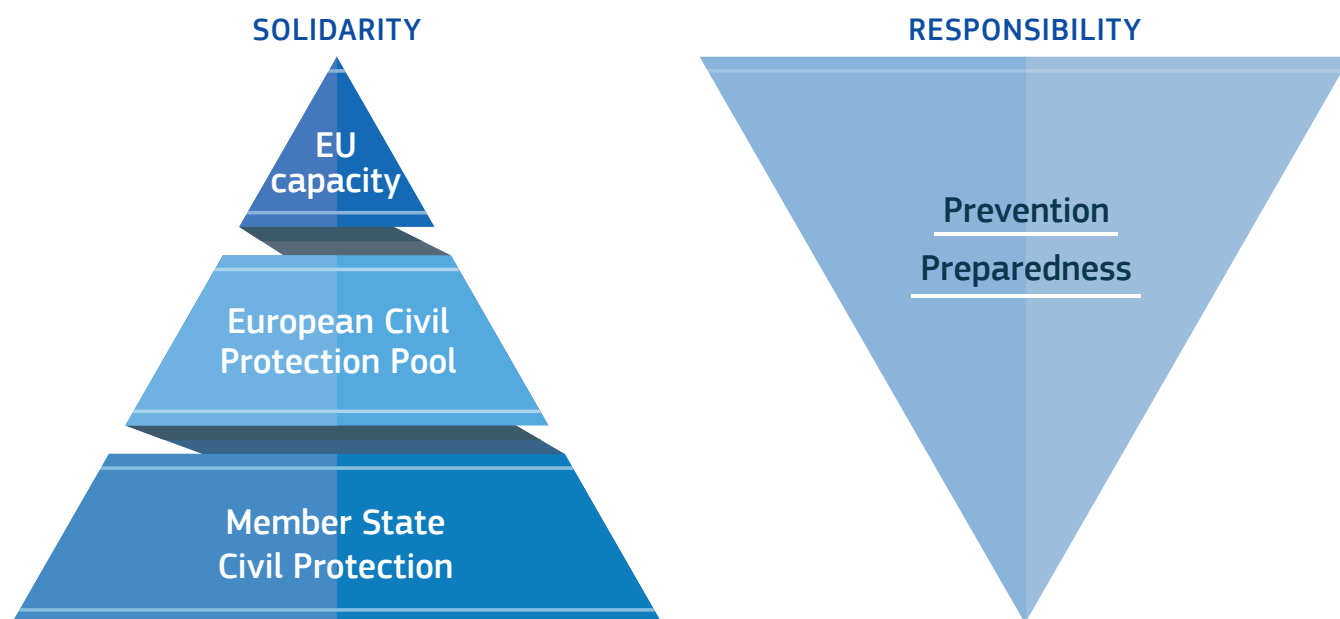
Firefighters from the Portuguese National Republican Guard, Avelar



WHAT IS rescEU?

TWO COMPLEMENTARY STRANDS: RESPONSE AND PREVENTION/PREPAREDNESS

The Commission proposes an ambitious new plan to strengthen the EU's civil protection response:



Response capacities: rescEU

- **EU response:** a reserve of new civil protection capabilities managed by the EU, such as firefighting aircrafts, high pressure water pumps, urban search and rescue and field hospitals. To complement national capacities when overwhelmed. 100% EU financed.
- **Boosting national capacities:** EU financing for the adaptation, repair, transport and operation costs of Member States existing resources. These assets would become part of a shared pool of emergency response resources under the European Civil Protection Pool, and would be made available for deployment when disasters strike. 75% EU financed.

Disaster prevention and preparedness

- **Supporting national prevention and preparedness:** requesting Member States to share national prevention strategies with the Commission and provide guidance
- **European Civil Protection Knowledge Network** to train national civil protection authorities and to share information.
- **Links with other EU policies:** strengthening cooperation and coherence with other EU policies dealing with prevention and preparedness.

Less bureaucracy: the proposal will streamline and simplify administrative procedures in order to reduce the time needed to deploy life-saving assistance.