

# Statement by Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the devastating fires in Greece

*"Today is a day of great sorrow for Greece and for all of Europe.*

*The EU stands with the Greek people in solidarity at this difficult time.*

*Let me express our condolences to the families and friends of the victims of these devastating fires that have caused so much suffering and a tragic loss of life.*

*As announced by President Juncker in his letter, I will travel to Athens today to meet with the Greek civil protection authorities and coordinate the EU assistance which is already on its way.*

*I spoke with Prime Minister Tsipras yesterday night and I am in constant contact with him in order to offer the Commission's full support to the Greek authorities and people.*

*At this stage, I would like to thank Cyprus, Spain and Bulgaria who have already made immediate offers of concrete assistance through our EU Civil Protection Mechanism: planes, firefighters, medics and vehicles.*

*Together we are working 24/7 to help the brave first responders and emergency services working tirelessly to help those in need."*

## **For more information**

[President Juncker's letter](#)

[MEMO on forest fires](#)

[EU's Civil Protection Mechanism](#)

[Emergency Response Coordination Centre](#) (ERCC)

[Photos](#) and [video](#) stockshots of the ERCC