

## TURKEY EARTHQUAKE



### Facts & figures

- 604 people were killed in the 7,1 magnitude quake that struck Van province in Eastern Turkey on 23 October 2011
- 4,152 people were injured
- 5,700 buildings became uninhabitable
- On 26 October 2011 Turkey requested assistance from the EU
- 16 Participating States in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism rapidly offered assistance
- On 9 November 2011 a strong aftershock hit the Van province
- EU assistance to Turkey:  
6, 570 winterized tents for some 36,000 persons & financial assistance

Following the destructive 7,1 magnitude earthquake that struck Eastern Turkey near the city of Van on 23 October 2011, Turkey requested international assistance. The scale of the disaster, leaving over 600 dead and around 60,000 homeless, overwhelmed the capacities of a single country to respond on its own. Due to temperatures falling below 0°C, Turkish authorities expressed an urgent need for winterized tents, prefabricated houses and container homes. The request for assistance was renewed following a strong aftershock of magnitude 5.6 that hit the region of Van on 9 November 2011.

### EU RESPONSE

- The European Commission was in close contact with the Turkish authorities and EU delegation in Ankara immediately after the news of the first quake. The Commission's Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) monitored the seismic movements and the humanitarian situation from the first alert.
- Within days an ECHO humanitarian expert was sent to the affected area to assess the damage and needs on the ground.
- When Turkey requested assistance, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism started to coordinate EU Member States' offers to ensure a joint and targeted European response.
- In total, EU assistance to Turkey amounted to 6,570 winterized tents that could shelter about 36,000 persons affected by the Van earthquake.
- In addition, the EU and the Turkish Red Crescent signed a 4 million € grant agreement for the supply of temporary shelter for people made homeless by the earthquake.

Country	Tents	People Sheltered	Financial Assistance
Austria	32	320	
Belgium	400	2,000	
Bulgaria	100	1800	
Czech Republic			101,779 €
Denmark	100	500	
Estonia			100,000 €
Spain	329	1,645	
Finland			500,000 €
France	775	2,450	
Italy	208	1,040	
Luxembourg	360	1,800	
Poland			115,607 €
Romania	100	500	
Sweden	641	4,024	
Slovenia	2	40	
Slovakia	10	196	
United Kingdom	1,144	5,720	
Ireland	824	4,120	
Germany	500	2,500	358,155 €
Netherlands	1,000	5,000	
Croatia	45	225	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>36,160</b>	<b>1,175,541 €</b>

## Coordination of European aid on the ground

To facilitate the hand-over of the European assistance on the ground and to liaise with the national authorities, the MIC deployed to Turkey an EU Civil Protection team of five experts.

### CHRONOLOGY

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- 23 October:** Earthquake strikes
- 26 October:** Turkey requests international assistance; the EU Civil Protection Mechanism gets activated
- 27 October:** The MIC deploys an EU Civil Protection team to Turkey
- 31 October:** 4 million € grant agreement is signed between the EU and the Turkish Red Crescent. The funding available through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is to be used for the pre-fabricated houses
- 9 November:** A strong aftershock hits the Van region
- 10 November:** Turkey renews its request for assistance through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism
- 12 November:** The MIC deploys another civil protection expert to Turkey to ensure successful delivery of additional tents offered by the Participating States in the Mechanism following the 9 November aftershock



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