

**Question for written answer E-015325/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: EU-Turkey meeting

In addition to initial funding of EUR 3 billion and acceptance of ongoing Turkish demands (abolition of visas, upgrading of the Customs Union, holding of two summits per year), it was agreed at the EU-Turkey meeting to open a number of new chapters in the negotiating process. However, the announcement thereof by the Commission was institutionally unacceptable.

Furthermore, the latest EU report on Turkey expresses concern at the 'serious decline' in efforts to comply with the rule of law and fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression and freedom of assembly and notes that 'strong political pressure' has been brought to bear on judges and prosecutors.

Despite calls for Turkey to defuse violence and seek a peaceful solution with the Kurdish community, a number of journalists have been arrested and the President of the Bar Association has been killed in Diyarbakir over the last 24 hours alone.

In addition, numerous accusations of supporting ISIS have been levelled at Turkey, by Columbia University for example: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-l-phillips/research-paper-isis-turke_b_6128950.html

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission explain why new chapters such as 'Fundamental Rights' and 'Justice' are being opened, thereby rewarding Turkey for infringements of human rights and the rights of the Kurds?
2. Why are measures being taken to upgrade the Customs Union and facilitate greater participation by Turkey in the Common Foreign Security and Defence Policy, in view of accusations against it regarding its controversial attitude to the Middle East crisis, its refusal to recognize a Member State, its insistence in declaring a casus belli and its constant infringements of Greek airspace?
3. What view does it take of the accusations being levelled at Turkey at international level regarding acts and omissions facilitating and condoning support for ISIS?