



Plenary sitting

B8-1218/2015

4.11.2015

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on the separation of state and religion in EU accession candidates

Franz Obermayr

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the separation of state and religion in EU accession candidates

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the separation of state and religion provides the basis for different cultures to live together within one state;
- B. whereas it is precisely an excessive religious sentiment that has created the conditions for the intolerance and contempt for humanity displayed by a wide range of extremist groups in recent years;
- C. whereas there are signs that one EU accession candidate in particular has increasingly turned away from secularism and moved towards political Islam, i.e. Turkey in the years since Recep Tayyip Erdoğan came to power;
 1. Takes the view that EU accession candidates such as Turkey in particular should be better supported in their fight against religious fundamentalist forces;
 2. Takes the view that strict separation of state and religion and protection for religious minorities must provide the basis for further accession negotiations with Turkey, and with all other potential accession candidates.