

**Question for written answer E-009758/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Relaxation of EU visa requirements for Turkish citizens

The EU-Turkey readmission agreement, signed on 16 December 2013, has paved the way for the relaxation of EU visa requirements for Turkish citizens.

When the roadmap was officially unveiled, Turkey reiterated its long-standing reservations on a number of issues. Turkey has now accepted most of the EU's conditions, although it has rejected some and voiced concerns over others. The Turkish authorities maintain that some of the demands which have been made have no place in a dialogue on visa liberalisation, which should remain separate from the EU accession negotiations.

What is more, some Member States are wary of the moves to liberalise visa requirements, and public opinion in those countries would probably be opposed to the abolition of visas for Turkish people.

Against this background, how does the Commission intend to put an end to the 'Turkish anomaly', whereby Turkey is the only applicant country whose nationals still require a visa to visit the EU?