Question for written answer E-009962/2014/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 130 Ole Christensen (S&D)

Subject: Violation by Turkey of the European Convention on Extradition

Following the attempted murder of the Danish controversialist Lars Hedegaard on 5 February 2013, a Danish suspect was arrested at Atatürk Airport in Istanbul on 24 April 2014. An exchange process was then set in motion with a view to having the suspect extradited to Denmark.

According to the records of the court in Bakirköy the suspect agreed to be extradited and was held in custody until the exchange could take place. According to the court records, the suspect denies the charge.

On 1 November 2014 the prison inspector at Maltepe prison announced that the suspect had been handed over to the Turkish intelligence service MIT and was therefore no longer in prison. On 2 October 2014 the Turkish Ministry of Justice announced that the suspect had not been in custody since 20 August.

In spite of repeated representations from the Danish Foreign Ministry, it is still not clear what happened, and it has so far proved impossible to get a clear answer from Turkey, although there are rumours that the suspect might be part of an exchange of prisoners with Islamic State.

With this in mind:

1. Will the Commission put pressure on the Turkish authorities to cast some light on this matter?