

**Question for written answer E-010985/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Sexist remarks by the Turkish president

Turkey is preparing to assume the presidency of the G20, which has agreed to a 25% reduction in the gap in access to employment between men and women by 2025. There are, however, some alarming statistics and remarks on the subject of women's rights in Turkey that can be observed. Indeed, the sexist statement made by President Erdogan of Turkey, specifically on Monday 24 November, in which he rejects equality between men and women on the grounds that it is "contrary to human nature", cannot be tolerated. In response to this, many have accused the government of inciting domestic violence. Moreover, in the field of employment, around 69% of men in the country have a paid job compared to 28% of women, according to the OECD.

Turkey, which is aspiring to join the European Union, is conflicting with one of the fundamental principles of Community law: gender equality.

1. How has the Commission responded to the sexists remarks of President Erdogan?
2. Will these remarks have any implications on Turkish-EU relations?
3. What measures does the Commission intend to take to promote women's rights in Turkey?