

**Question for written answer E-000618/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Threats to freedom in Turkey

During the night of 14 December 2014 some thirty journalists and other media professionals were arrested by the police and accused of participating in an 'armed terrorist organisation'. This has occurred at the close of an election year, after the big winner of the elections – President Erdogan, with enhanced powers – threatened to 'trap the conspirators'.

The High Representative later stated that 'these acts go against European values', in response to which President Erdogan answered that 'we are not concerned with what the European Union may say - whether it accepts us or not'.

1. Following these actions by the Turkish Government, will President Erdogan and Prime Minister Davutoglu be welcomed during their visit to Brussels in January 2015?
2. How will the Turkish Government's opinions vis-à-vis the European Union affect the accession negotiations?