

Question for written answer E-002514/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (NI)

Subject: 'Baby bonus' for Turkish citizens living abroad

Parliamentary elections will be taking place in Turkey in June 2015, and this will be a significant event for Turkish citizens residing in the EU. 'Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi' (Justice and Development Party), a Muslim conservative party, is promising Turkish citizens living in Germany a special election gift of a 'baby bonus'. Under this scheme, Turkish citizens living abroad would receive EUR 110 for their first child and EUR 220 for their second and third children. In Turkey, they would receive EUR 5.11 for each child per month, as well as EUR 30.68 for their third child. Approximately three million people living in the EU are eligible to vote in Turkey, and 1.4 million of these voters live in Germany and 90 000 in Austria alone.

As a result of the foregoing, I have the following questions:

1. What impact would this election promise have on the process of association between the EU and Turkey?
2. What knock-on effects could this 'baby bonus' have for the European Union?
3. In the event that this election promise actually becomes a reality, does the Commission intend to take any action against it?