

**Question for written answer E-012140/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Setbacks in the area of LGBTI rights in Turkey

For the first time in a number of years, the Turkish Government violently broke up the Istanbul Gay Pride march held on 28 June 2015.

Just a few days ago, thousands of posters calling for homosexuals to be killed were put up all over Ankara. The Young Islamic Defence group claimed responsibility.

It is clear that there is a backlash against LGBTI rights in Turkey and that the Turkish Government needs to 'undertake serious efforts' to protect these rights, as the Commission pointed out in its most recent progress report on Turkey.

Given Turkey's status as a candidate for EU membership, and given that the Commission is responsible for monitoring LGBTI rights in pre-accession countries:

1. How does the Commission plan to respond to the breaking-up of the Gay Pride demonstration in Istanbul?
2. How is it attempting to persuade the Turkish Government to put a stop to discrimination against LGBTI people in the army?
3. Will it urge the Turkish authorities to set up a specific body to combat discrimination and hatred against the LGBTI community (2014/2953(RSP))?