Question for written answer E-000512/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Sofia Sakorafa (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Addition to future progress reports of a chapter assessing the adverse human rights

implications of the EU-Turkey Agreement

Despite repeated requests from NGOs, individual citizens, the Council of Europe and the United Nations, no assessment of the human rights implications of the EU-Turkey Agreement has been made since its entry into force in March 2016.

However, the Commission has a duty to cooperate with the Member States and relevant organisations in providing the necessary support for the effective implementation of the Agreement and to issue detailed progress reports.

The Commission, for its part, argues that its communication of 16 March 2016 and subsequent progress reports contain the requisite assessment.

This view is contradicted by the European Ombudsman's findings of 18 January, calling on the Commission to do more to prove that the agreement is being implemented in line with EU obligations to uphold fundamental rights.

In view of this:

Can the Commission say to what extent the EU institutions and Member States are fulfilling their obligations to uphold human rights in implementing the Agreement and what measures they are taking to this end?

Will it add to future progress reports a separate chapter assessing any direct or indirect damage done by the Agreement in terms of human rights?

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