

**Question for written answer E-000835/2017  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Terrorist attack in Turkey on New Year's Eve 2016

On New Year's Eve 2016, an attack took place on a nightclub in the Turkish capital of Istanbul in which 39 people lost their lives and at least 60 more were badly injured. Despite the fact that the nightclub had received a warning days before the attack and had been recognised as a likely target for a long time, police presence had not been increased. According to a newspaper article, a strong police presence is nevertheless regularly provided at Muslim festivals.

In the run-up to the attack rather strong warnings were given by pro-governmental media outlets not to participate in un-Islamic festivities. The Millî Gazete newspaper, which serves as the mouthpiece of the Islamist Felicity Party, to which President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan also used to belong, even announced: 'Final warning. Don't celebrate the new year!'

1. Does the Commission believe that the way Turkish state authorities deal with the protection of non-Muslim terror targets constitutes discrimination?
2. What is the Commission's assessment of Turkey as a candidate country in light of these facts?
3. What sort of measures could be taken to provide for more security during Christian holidays in the future?