

Question for written answer E-000911/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Action taken by the Commission to protect Greek citizens' property rights over the 'Dodecanesian properties' under Turkish sovereignty

Turkey disputes Greece's sovereignty over Imia, Panagia islet and other islands in the Aegean Sea, and has been violating Greek citizens' property rights over the 'Dodecanesian properties' for decades.

The properties referred to are the islands of Arkonisos or Akronisos across Halicarnassus, Tsatalia across Karatoprak, and Agioi Apostoloi across Gümuslük, all of which, according to official Ottoman deeds registered in the land registry of Halicarnassus district, belong to Greeks, but they are under Turkish sovereignty.

These islands and thousands of hectares along the coastline of Asia Minor that belong to 140 Dodecanesian families, according to the records of the Association of Dodecanesian Landlords in Asia Minor of 8 June 1952. The records state that the properties are registered in the Turkish land registry under the names of their Greek owners, and notes that they are part of unexchangeable properties.

Greece has repeatedly raised the matter of the Dodecanesian properties with Turkey since 1952.

In view of this, what action will the Commission take in pre-accession negotiations with Turkey to help the Greek owners of the above 'Dodecanesian properties' use and exploit their property unimpeded, in accordance with international laws and the European Convention on Human Rights?