Question for written answer E-001876/2017 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: VP/HR - Relations with Turkey

Events over the last few weeks should encourage EU authorities and national governments to stand firm against Turkey. The diplomatic tensions created by the Turkish referendum campaign led the Netherlands (where a pro-Turkish party has just broken through in the parliamentary elections) to refuse the Turkish Foreign Minister permission to take part in a political rally in Rotterdam. In a similar vein, Germany has banned the holding on its territory of meetings supporting the referendum. The present Austrian Chancellor, Christian Kern, has even called for the banning of electoral meetings throughout the European Union. The Turkish Minister of Social Affairs has called on Bulgarian citizens of Turkish origin to vote for Dost, the new party of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria; the Turkish Minister of the Interior has warned that Turkey could let 15 000 refugees leave for Europe every month; the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs has predicted 'wars of religion' in Europe; and Erdoğan himself has urged his fellow citizens living in Europe to have five rather than just three children.

In the face of these unacceptable provocations, does the Vice-President / High Representative intend to react firmly by calling for a ban on Turkish rallies in Europe and a stop to the accession negotiations?

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