

Question for written answer E-002681/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Renaud Muselier (PPE)

Subject: Allocation of subsidies to Turkey as a candidate for accession to the EU

In the past few weeks, the President of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, has attempted to provoke the European Union and its Member States on several occasions. Having labelled the Dutch and German authorities Nazis, he revealed his wish to reinstate the death penalty under some circumstances. The abolition of the death penalty is what sets Member States of the European Union apart from any other state. Under the Copenhagen criteria, it is actually a prerequisite for any state seeking to join the European Union.

As a candidate for EU accession, Turkey receives a portion of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance. It received more than EUR 900 million from 2007 to 2013, of which 17% was provided by France by way of its contributions to the Union's budget.

Today, Turkey's accession to the European Union under Erdoğan does not seem to be a very realistic prospect, or indeed a prospect at all. As such:

1. Does the Commission believe that it is appropriate to continue subsidising a state, whatever the cost, that publicly rejects every European value?
2. Does the Commission plan to reduce the total sum that France pays towards this subsidy?