

**Question for written answer E-003028/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Unacceptable Turkish NAVTEX in the Cypriot exclusive economic zone

On 19 April 2017, Turkey released a NAVTEX (No 410/17) covering an area including the territorial waters of the Cypriot exclusive economic zone (EEZ), extending from the Bay of Famagusta to the Cape of Apostle Andreas. On 27 April 2017, the Turkish Barbaros seismic vessel entered that area.

Turkey's moves come at a time when, firstly, talks on resolving the Cyprus issue are at a very critical stage and, secondly, Cyprus is in the process of signing the contracts for the third round of the authorisation and announcement of new seismic research and drilling in the coming months. It is obvious that Turkey is not moving towards mitigating but rather is stirring up problems.

What steps does the Commission intend to take against Turkey, a candidate country, to stop provocative actions towards a Member State?

Does the Commission consider that Turkey's actions make it possible even to discuss important issues raised by Turkey, such as the revision of the Customs Union?