

**Question for written answer E-005003/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Follow-up questions on the Commission's answer: Salafist influence in Macedonia (E-003111/2017)

1. How does the Commission explain the differing oversight given to crackdowns on minorities in Macedonia and to crackdowns on minorities in Turkey? For example, there are currently EU observers in Turkey who are following up on the expropriation proceedings for the Syriac Mor Gabriel monastery in the South-East of that country.
2. What steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure that the way in which the protection of the right to property is implemented in Macedonia is harmonised with the EU's legal principles? Obviously, the question of the right to own property is subject to individual Member States' legislation. However, in its bilateral relationships, the European Union surely emphasises a functional judicial system and an independent judiciary whose legal practice corresponds with European principles. This applies particularly to states whose citizens enjoy visa-free travel, as this constitutes a strengthening of their relationship with the Union. This is also highlighted by the Final Declaration of the Western Balkans Summit 2017, according to which the future of the Balkans is in the EU.
3. How serious does the Commission consider the threat posed by the specific events in Macedonia to the peace process in the Western Balkans?