

**Question for written answer P-007398/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Erdoğan questions the legitimacy of Greek sovereignty over the Greek Aegean islands

It has been reported¹ that Turkish President Recep Tayyip **Erdoğan** said yesterday (29/09/2016), at a meeting of Turkey's Security Council, but also to an audience of local community leaders in Ankara, that he feels cheated by the Treaty of Lausanne. He continued, expressing his regret that his country had had to cede the islands of the Aegean to Greece under the Treaty of Lausanne (1923).

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- Does it consider that the questioning by President **Erdoğan** of the legitimacy of Greek sovereignty over the Greek Aegean islands is a violation of international law?
- Does it consider that President **Erdoğan's** statements will exacerbate an already tense situation due to the refugee and Syrian crises? If so, how will it respond?
- Does it consider that President **Erdoğan's** statements and behaviour are consistent with those of a President of an EU accession country? If not, how will it respond?

¹ HURRIYET, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogan-says-treaty-that-formed-modern-turkey-presented-as-though-it-were-a-victory.aspx?pageID=238&nID=104386&NewsCatID=338>