

**Question for written answer P-008094/2016**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Detention of Gültan Kışanak and Fırat Anlı, co-mayors of Diyarbakir, Turkey

On Tuesday, 25 October 2016, the co-mayors of Diyarbakir, Ms Gültan Kışanak and Mr Fırat Anlı, were detained by the police in an unlawful and arbitrary manner.

In a statement the same day, VP/HR Federica Mogherini and Commissioner Johannes Hahn declared to 'have seen very worrying reports of the arrests of the democratically elected co-mayors of Diyarbakir, in south east Turkey', but that the EU also 'fully recognises the grave threat posed to Turkish security by the PKK'.

The reality is that the Erdoğan-AKP government is continuing to disrespect universal human rights and principles of democratic law, and is contravening many international conventions of which Turkey is a signatory. By taking such an attitude toward the political will of the Kurdish people, the government aims at wiping out democratic politics and opposition in the country.

Will the EU demand accountability for this human rights violation by Turkey, given that it is a candidate country for EU membership?

Will the EU demand explanations for these arbitrary and unlawful detentions and for the continued attacks against the Kurdish population? Does the EU not think that the accession process should be stopped, and that Turkey should be denied status as 'safe country'?