



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Foreign Affairs

2012/2107(DEC)

30.10.2012

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on Special Report No 6/2012 (discharge 2011) - 'European Union Assistance to the Turkish Cypriot Community', (pursuant to Article 287(4), second subparagraph, TFEU)

(2012/2107(DEC))

Rapporteur: Marietta Giannakou

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 of 27 February 2006,
- A. whereas, with a view to creating the foundations for an effective solution to the reunification of Cyprus, it is essential, inter alia, to support the process of reconciliation and confidence-building between the two Cypriot communities,
 1. Stresses the importance of continuing to provide assistance to the Turkish Cypriot community according to the Council Regulation;
 2. Points out, in particular, the fundamental role of the Committee on Missing Persons in order to determine the fate of the missing persons and so contribute to inter-communal reconciliation;
 3. Asks the Commission and EUPSO to maximise the circulation of information on tenders for reconciliation and civil society strengthening programmes;
 4. Recalls that an estimated 78% of privately owned land in the northern part of Cyprus legally belongs to Greek Cypriots and that a solution to the property issue will be essential for the support of future reunification plans; calls the Commission and EUPSO to continue to strengthen the system of recording and earmarking of the rights on such lands so that the legitimate owners can maintain visibility vis-à-vis third party private investors;
 5. Stresses the importance of the seawater desalination plant in the northern part of the island for the preservation of the groundwater reserves and asks the Commission to rescue this project without any discrimination based on the origin of tenders;
 6. In light of the European Court of Auditors in its recommendations, asks the Commission to consider measures to further improve the management of the assistance based on the existing legal framework and in line with the Council Regulation.