

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1459/04
by Koenraad Dillen (NI)
to the Commission

Subject: Financial aid to Northern Cyprus

In order to reward Northern Cyprus for the pro-European result of the referendum on 24 April, the Commission has decided that the € 259 m which was earmarked for the Turkish part of Cyprus in the period 2004-2006 in the event of reunification should be made available anyway. According to newspaper reports, this decision was taken on Tuesday, 27 April, immediately after the outcome of the referendum had been announced. Yet Turkey continues to occupy Northern Cyprus.

1. How did this decision come to be taken so quickly and unilaterally?
2. Does this financial aid mean that the European Union ultimately intends to recognise Turkish Cyprus?
3. In exchange for this financial aid, is the Commission demanding any guarantees from the Turkish occupiers of Northern Cyprus with regard to freer movement for Greek Cypriots?
4. In exchange for this financial aid, will the Commission urge the Turkish Cypriot authorities finally to work seriously towards an equitable settlement for the many thousands of Greek Cypriots who were driven away from their homes without compensation after the occupation of Northern Cyprus?