

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1636/06  
by Feleknas Uca (GUE/NGL)  
to the Commission

Subject: The Yezides in Turkey and their freedom to practise religion

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees in Germany writes in its January 2006 'Individual Decision-Maker Letter' that Yezides in Turkey are no longer victims of persecution and that Yezides are free to practise their religion in Turkey with no danger to life and limb.

What can the Commission say about the number of Yezides living in Turkey?

What is the situation in Turkey as far as freedom to practise religion is concerned? What is the situation as regards freedom of religion for Yezides in particular? Is the Commission aware of cases of interference with Yezides in Turkey?

What legal possibilities exist for Yezides who fled from persecution to reclaim their property (houses, land) if they return to their villages? How many Yezidi returnees are there?

What information does the Commission have about how Turkey proposes to protect Yezides from repression of whatever kind?