

**Question for written answer E-008715/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Marie-Christine Vergiat (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Use of torture in Turkish prisons and reintroduction of the death penalty

On 29 October 2016, the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said that the issue of the reintroduction of the death penalty, which has been under discussion since the attempted coup d'état in July 2016, would be put to the Turkish Parliament.

For several months now, NGOs have been drawing attention to the mistreatment of opponents of the Erdoğan regime in Turkish prisons. Human rights violations and the increased pressure on prisons following the arrest of tens of thousands of people when the coup attempt was put down have given rise to fears that the situation will get even worse.

1. What specific steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure that Turkey observes the conditions laid down in the context of its application to join the EU as regards upholding human rights, in particular in prisons?
2. In the context of Turkey's accession process, how does the Commission intend to make sure that Turkey complies with Protocol No 13 to the European Convention on Human Rights concerning the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances?