

**Question for written answer E-002219/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Marine Le Pen (ENF)

Subject: Threat of physical violence by the Turkish President

On 22 March 2017, the President of Turkey, Mr Erdoğan, stated the following: 'The world is following what is happening very closely. If you continue to act in this way, from tomorrow no citizen of Europe or the Western world will be able to walk down a street safely and confidently anywhere in the world.'

This barely veiled threat of physical violence by Mr Erdoğan came one year to the day after the Jihadist attacks carried out in Brussels in 2016.

What consequences, aside from the Commission's usual vague expressions of concern, will these extremely hostile remarks have for Turkey's accession process?

Does the Commission think that the Copenhagen criteria are suitable and stringent enough to assess the membership application of a country like Turkey, when those criteria do not even specify that the applicant country should be part of Europe, or even have any kind of connection with it?

Can Turkey simultaneously threaten the physical integrity of Europeans and be a candidate for European Union accession?