

**Question for written answer E-005002/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Eva Kaili (S&D)

Subject: Energy deposits in the eastern Mediterranean and the role of the EU

At a time when Turkey is contesting the sovereign rights of Greece and Cyprus and carrying on regardless with its announced prospecting activities to the south and east of Crete and the Dodecanese, there can be no doubt as to its intentions to claim a substantial share of the energy resources located in EU territory. On the other hand, with the historic signature of the EastMed pipeline agreement, Greece and Cyprus are helping to achieve EU objectives by seeking alternative energy supply channels. At the same time, by commencing prospecting activities in their territorial waters in the Levant Basin, they are making a major contribution to reducing Europe's dependence on lignite for its energy supplies.

1. What view does the Commission take of efforts by Turkey to obstruct prospecting in European territorial waters and thus undermine the achievement of EU objectives as a whole?
2. Has the Commission sought to assess the 'energy costs' of Turkish claims in the Mediterranean for the EU as a whole?