

**Question for written answer E-001864/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Incident during the visit to Turkey of the Commission President and the President of the European Council

At the meeting of 6 April 2021 at the Turkish presidential palace to discuss the future of EU-Turkey relations, a seat was provided for the President of the European Council on an equal footing with Turkish President Erdoğan, but not for the President of the Commission.

Given President Erdoğan's track record of disdain for women's rights, including Turkey's recent withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention, the setting for this meeting does not seem to be based on the order of precedence required by protocol, but rather on the male chauvinist attitudes of an autocrat.

1. Prior to this meeting were there contacts between the Commission and the Turkish administration on the setting of the meeting?
2. If not, will the Commission agree on a format for future meetings with the President of the European Council?
3. Will the Commission propose respect for women's rights as a binding criterion for future EU-Turkish cooperation?