

EN

E-001888/2021

Answer given by Ms Ferreira  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(7.6.2021)

The Commission attributes great importance to the preservation of cultural heritage in Cyprus. As a matter of principle, the Commission deplores any damage to, or disrespect for, cultural heritage sites, and regularly raises the importance of safeguarding sites of cultural and religious significance with the Turkish Cypriot community.

Under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community under Council Regulation 389/2006<sup>1</sup>, the Commission supports the bi-communal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, operating under the auspices of the United Nations. Since 2012, the Commission has provided approximately EUR 20 million to support the work of the Committee implemented by the United Nations Development Programme, which makes the EU its largest contributor.

The monastery in question is on the list of sites that the bi-communal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage wishes to conserve with EU funding. The Technical Committee will launch conservation works as soon as safe implementation is possible.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1523015517144&uri=CELEX:32006R0389>