

Question for written answer E-004156/2022

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Extradition of the Turkish citizen Mahmut Tat

On 2 December, Sweden rejected the Turkish citizen Mahmut Tat's application for asylum and extradited him to Turkey the following day. When his aeroplane landed in Turkey, Mr Tat was arrested by the Turkish authorities on charges of participation in a terrorist organisation, an allegation his legal representation denies, maintaining that he merely participated in democratic protests in the country. Turkey's institutions' excessive and illegal use of terrorism charges has been stressed by various human rights organisations including the Council of Europe.

1. What measures does the Vice-President / High Representative intend to take to ensure that Sweden's and Finland's NATO membership agreements, which call for the extradition of Turkish nationals, do not impinge upon the situation of asylum seekers in real need of protection?
2. What steps is the Vice-President / High Representative taking to ensure that guarantees of protection and access to a fair trial are applied to citizens who have already been extradited?
3. What future action does the Vice-President / High Representative intend to take to denounce and put an end to crackdowns on political dissent in Turkey, especially the unlawful use of charges of terrorism?

Submitted: 22.12.2022