

**Question for written answer E-003254/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Niyazi Kizilyürek (The Left)

Subject: Non-compliance of Cypriot private banks with the EU Payment Accounts Directive

In its circular of 26 April 2023, the Central Bank of Cyprus confirms that Turkish Cypriots who are Cypriot nationals are covered by a directive, as per Law 64(I)2017 transposing the EU Payment Accounts Directive (2014/92/EU), which binds the private banks of Cyprus.

The directive entitles Turkish Cypriot citizens of the Republic of Cyprus who do not reside in the government-controlled areas to have payment accounts with basic features.

Despite the Central Bank's ruling, numerous Turkish Cypriots applying for basic bank accounts have had their applications denied, contravening EU law.

1. What measures will the Commission take to ensure that the EU Payment Accounts Directive is properly implemented, guaranteeing Turkish Cypriots their rightful access to payment accounts with basic features?
2. Considering the Commission's role as the enforcer of EU law, what immediate actions will the Commission take with respect to the European Central Bank in order to hold private banks accountable for their non-compliance and protect the financial rights of Turkish Cypriots?

Submitted: 3.11.2023