Question for written answer E-003485/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

François Alfonsi (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Persistent inhuman conditions at the Minority Secondary and High School in Xanthi,

Greece

Basic building standards and technical requirements for educational facilities have been laid down by national and EU legislation.

At the Minority Secondary and High School of Xanthi in Western Thrace, approximately 600 Turkish-minority students are currently receiving their education in an old wooden tobacco warehouse. When a delegation from the European Freedom Alliance visited the school in April 2023, it observed that the building was inappropriate for providing a qualified and healthy education. In an emergency, the school's physical condition leaves it vulnerable to all kinds of tragedies.

Yet the only options offered by the Greek authorities are two-shift education and overcrowded classrooms housing more than 27 students, which exceeds the physical capacity of the classrooms.

In the light of the physical condition of the Minority Secondary and High School of Xanthi in Western Thrace:

- 1. Is the Commission aware that Greece is not complying with EU legislation requiring it to provide education to Turkish-minority students in line with humane and EU standards?
- 2. How does the Commission view Greece's policy on minority education, which could be responsible for a possible emergency potentially leading to a disaster at the Minority Secondary and High School of Xanthi?
- 3. What is the Commission's opinion of the education rights violations faced by Greece's Turkish minority, who are European citizens?

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