

ORAL QUESTION H-0646/03  
for Question Time at the part-session in November 2003  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Anna Karamanou  
to the Commission

Subject: Trial of women demonstrating in favour of dialogue at Bingol in Turkey

On 7 November 2003, 125 women will be put on trial in Turkey for taking part in a demonstration in protest at the violence and unrest characterising relations between the Turkish Government and the Kurdish populations and calling for dialogue and a peaceful resolution of their differences. The women, representing 39 NGOs from the whole of Turkey, had in the past held demonstrations in Istanbul, Adana and Ankara, handing resolutions to the authorities. The Bingol demonstration however did not go as peacefully since the women were **insulted and then arrested** on charges of infringing the law regarding demonstrations.

What steps will the Commission take, what pressure will it bring to bear on this applicant country to ensure that it respects women's human rights and fundamental freedoms?

Tabled: 21.10.2003  
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