ORAL QUESTION H-0712/07 for Question Time at the part-session in October 2007 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Yiannakis Matsis to the Commission

Subject: Illegal visit by Abdullah Gul to the occupied northern part of Cyprus

On 18 September 2007 the Turkish President Abdullah Gul made an illegal visit to the occupied northern part of Cyprus. This visit violates the principles of international law, the partnership between Turkey and the EU and the declaration of 21 September. It is also contrary to United Nations Security Council resolutions 541 and 550.

Will the Commission, in a spirit of solidarity, defend the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and its own principles and values that have been violated by Abdullah Gul's visit, and that are violated on a daily basis as a result of the occupation of the European territory of the Republic of Cyprus by the Turkish army, and how will it do so? What consequences might such actions and the continued occupation of Cyprus have for Turkey's accession process?

Tabled: 20.09.2007 el