

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0027/08
pursuant to Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure
by Marco Cappato and Karin Resetarits, on behalf of the ALDE Group
to the Commission

Subject: The political dialogue for a reunification of Cyprus

Following the recent Cyprus presidential elections, both President-elect Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat have asked the UN to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

In this new and encouraging context, what action will the Commission intend taking to support the efforts to bring about a comprehensive and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem in particular as regards using the financial assistance allocated to the Turkish Cypriot community on confidence-building measures and people-to-people contacts?

In what way can the European Union facilitate and support the United Nations and the two sides in finding a solution, based on previous UN resolutions and on the fundamental principles of the EU, which will bring about withdrawal of all foreign troops from the island and termination of any embargoes on shipping and/or air travel involving either Cyprus or Turkey.

In what way can the Commission assist, to make sure that once a comprehensive solution is found, the acquis is extended to all parts of the island, as expediently as possible, and all citizens of Cyprus will participate in the 2009 European Parliament elections?

Tabled: 17.03.2008

Forwarded: 19.03.2008

Deadline for reply: 26.03.2008