

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3177/01  
by Christos Zacharakis (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Killing of hunger strikers in Turkey

On 5 November, Turkish police brutally forced their way into hunger strikers' houses in the Kucuk Armutlu district of Istanbul, killing six hunger strikers and wounding another fourteen in a bid to end the 379-day long hunger strike started in protest at the new regime in Turkish prisons. What practical steps will the Commission take to make plain to Turkey that the continuous violation of fundamental human rights and the systematic use of violence by the state are not compatible with Turkey's status as a country in the process of preparing for accession to the European Union and that this process will have to be suspended?