

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3027/05
by Antonis Samaras (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Signature by Turkey of the Protocol adopting the Agreement of Ankara, together with a unilateral statement of non-recognition of the Republic of Cyprus

Yesterday Turkey signed the Ankara Protocol, thereby meeting the commitment it had made last December to the EU as a whole and each Member State separately. However, at the same time it issued a unilateral statement declaring that the signature, ratification and implementation of this Protocol does not entail any form of recognition of the Republic of Cyprus, which is of course a Member State of the European Union.

Unfortunately it appears that Turkey has failed to understand that it is Turkey that is being vetted by each EU Member State with regard to the possibility of EU accession, and not Turkey that is judging the EU as a whole and each Member State separately.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. What steps does it intend to take vis-à-vis the Turkish government to make it clear that the self-evident condition for the accession of Turkey to the EU is that it recognises the EU and each EU Member State separately?
2. Does it intend to make recognition by Turkey of each Member State separately, including the Republic of Cyprus, a necessary precondition for the commencement of negotiations between Turkey and the EU?