

WRITTEN QUESTION P-5000/08
by Vural Öger (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Visa facilitation / readmission agreements

The EU generally negotiates on visa facilitation in conjunction with readmission agreements, which regularly enter into force before visa facilitation takes place.

Is the entry into force of readmission agreements a legal pre-requisite for the adoption of visa facilitation provisions? To what extent does the EU enjoy discretion in the negotiation of readmission agreements? Are readmission agreements negotiated separately with, and tailored to suit, each country, or is the procedure always formally identical for all states? Has it happened in the past that differing standards have been applied in this connection? How does the Commission explain the fact that negotiations on the readmission agreement between the EU and Turkey have stalled? What stands in the way of the negotiations on the EU side?