Question for written answer P-000640/2014 to the Commission Rule 117 Andrew Duff (ALDE)

Subject: Turkish Cypriot electoral rights in European parliamentary elections

Is the Commission aware of the draft law tabled by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus to reform its legislation governing European Parliament elections with respect to Turkish Cypriots in possession of a Republic of Cyprus ID card (around 92 000 people)?

Notwithstanding the need to ensure the integrity of the election, does the Commission agree that to let Turkish Cypriots resident in the north of Cyprus vote without prior electoral registration at polling stations at or near the border crossing points would be a welcome expedient and a useful confidence-building measure?

In view of the likelihood of this electoral reform, what will the Commission do to promote the participation of as many Turkish Cypriots as possible in the European Parliament elections?

Will the Commission help the Cypriot Government disseminate information to the Turkish Cypriot community on how to vote and how to stand as a candidate in these elections, both directly and via the media?

Will the Commission monitor the progress and impact of this electoral reform before, during and after polling day, and report back to Parliament?

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