

**Question for written answer P-002260/2014
to the Commission
Rule 117
Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Imprisonment of Murat Kanatli

The President of the Turkish Cypriot New Cyprus Party and conscientious objector Murat Kanatli has been sentenced to 10 days imprisonment by a military 'court' in the pseudo-state in Cyprus for deliberately failing to participate as a reservist in military exercises in the occupied territories.

The right to refuse military service is enshrined in the ECHR and normally conscientious objectors have the opportunity to perform alternative service. However, Murat Kanatli was sentenced to pay a fine of 500 Turkish lira and, because he refused, he has been imprisoned.

Mr Kanatli is a conscientious objector and since 2009 has refused to do his military service in the army of occupation. He is a peace campaigner, who is fighting for the reunification of Cyprus. He thus prefers to remain with a clear conscience than to serve in an army that has partitioned his country and continues to do so.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

Is it aware of the case of Murat Kanatli? Will it condemn this incident which is a violation of the human rights of a man who has refused to serve in the Turkish army of occupation in Cyprus?