

**Question for written answer P-000702/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Freedom of speech in Cyprus - the Afrika newspaper case

On 22 January 2018 the office of the Turkish Cypriot newspaper 'Afrika' was attacked after comments made by the President of Turkey, Tayyip Erdoğan, encouraged supporters to 'answer' the newspaper with regard to an article criticising Ankara's military offensive in Syria. The editor-in-chief, Şener Levent, has said that he continues to fear for his life.

In light of the European Union's commitment to respect the freedom and pluralism of the media, as well as the right to information and freedom of expression enshrined in Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, and Article 10 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, we would like to ask the following questions:

What concrete steps will the Commission take to protect the safety of Şener Levent?

Taking into consideration the above, what measures will the Commission take to ensure freedom of expression and freedom of the media?