Priority question for written answer P-003891/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Jérôme Rivière (ID)

Subject: Closure of Turkey's file and pre-accession payments

Parliament has been critical of Turkey since the beginning of Operation Peace Spring on 9 October. On 11 October, Turkey hosted the Secretary-General of NATO, while at the same time – as a member of the organisation – acquiring arms from Russian suppliers and turning itself into a regional

hub for all international powers.

It is difficult to comprehend how, in these conditions, the EU could continue to hope to establish a relationship of trust with Turkey. The Turkish Foreign Minister recently declared that the PKK, which is classed as a terrorist organisation, was influenced by the Armenians. His declaration came not long after President Erdoğan used the refugees in Turkey as a threat against Europeans. These are just some of a long list of problems Erdoğan is causing the EU, and the blackmail he is subjecting it to.

Is the Commission planning to change EU policy towards Turkey, close its file and put an end to its pre-accession payments, given that it continues to antagonise our continent?