

**Priority question for written answer P-005730/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Further provocative utterances by Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu has once more been issuing provocative statements regarding the demilitarisation of the Greek islands in the Aegean. In his annual presentation to diplomatic correspondents setting out Turkish foreign policy, he described Greek sovereignty over the Aegean islands as 'debatable', going so far as to blame Greece for attempting to create an artificial crisis in the area.

This is not the first time that Turkey has sought to contest Greek sovereign rights with the use of inflammatory rhetoric. Despite repeated calls to end this constant provocation of EU Member States, the Turkish Foreign Minister has once more been stoking tensions, potentially undermining the stability of the Mediterranean area in blatant violation of international treaties and generally challenging Greece's national sovereignty.

In view of the above utterances and the ongoing encroachments on Greek airspace by Turkish fighter planes:

1. Can the Commission say what will be its immediate reaction to these relentless Turkish challenges to Greek sovereign rights in the Aegean?
2. What view does it take of the attitude adopted by Turkey and what measures is it planning to take with a view to defusing the tensions created by it?