

**Question for written answer E-004420/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)

Subject: Legal status of Alexandretta and the need to reconsider the EU position

In the wider Asia Minor, there were majority Christian/non-Sunni populations until the early 20th century. Turkish nationalism fought this reality in every way, while seeking the expansion of the Turkish State against any weak neighbouring independent entity.

In 1939, the then region of Alexandretta (Sanjak of Alexandretta), which was part of the French Mandate for Syria and Lebanon, was unilaterally annexed by Türkiye, following the creation of a short-lived 'State of Hatay' under Turkish influence. This process has never been recognised by Syria, nor has it been approved by the League of Nations, and is considered by historical and legal circles to be a violation of the principle of self-determination and territorial integrity, principles already established by the Charter of the League of Nations and later by the Charter of the United Nations.

Given that the EU is built on respect for international law and the integrity of borders, and that the recent Turkish military interventions in Syria are a continuation of the same practice:

1. What is the Commission's view of the fact that the annexation of Alexandretta in 1939 constitutes an act outside international law?
2. Does the Commission intend to ask the EEAS to examine the issue in the context of the EU-Türkiye dialogue?
3. Will the Commission support the preparation of an independent historical-legal study in collaboration with the UN and UNESCO to restore historical truth?

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