

**Question for written answer E-004024/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Marc Angel (S&D), Kim Van Sparrentak (Verts/ALE), Dainius Žalimas (Renew), Lukas Sieper (Renew), Carolina Morace (The Left), Olivier Chastel (Renew), Merja Kyllönen (The Left), Rasmus Nordqvist (Verts/ALE), Elio Di Rupo (S&D), Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle (Renew), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Krzysztof Śmiszek (S&D), Kathleen Van Brempt (S&D), Catarina Vieira (Verts/ALE), Sigrid Friis (Renew), Marko Vešligaj (S&D), Joanna Scheuring-Wielgus (S&D), Sirpa Pietikäinen (PPE), Malik Azmani (Renew), Benedetta Scuderi (Verts/ALE), Brando Benifei (S&D), Birgit Sippel (S&D), Erik Marquardt (Verts/ALE), Matjaž Nemec (S&D), Irena Joveva (Renew), Pina Picierno (Renew), Catarina Martins (The Left), Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE), Robert Biedroń (S&D), Lucia Yar (Renew), Gordan Bosanac (Verts/ALE), Alessandro Zan (S&D), Katrin Langensiepen (Verts/ALE), Elisabeth Grossmann (S&D)

Subject: Detention of LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders in Türkiye

On the night of 12-13 September, Turkish authorities detained 162 people in a large-scale police operation targeting persons associated with LGBTIQ+ organisations. Approximately 50-60 of those detained are reportedly LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders and activists. Police also raided homes and offices of LGBTIQ+ organisations and seized equipment. The operation follows a court-ordered blocking of the websites and social media accounts of LGBTIQ+ organisations on 12 September. Further detentions and raids may follow.

1. Will the Commission urgently call on the Turkish authorities to immediately release LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders and activists detained solely in connection with their legitimate human rights and civil society work, and to ensure that all detainees have full access to lawyers and due process?
2. What steps will the Commission take to urge the Turkish authorities to immediately cease the targeting, intimidation and criminalisation of LGBTIQ+ organisations and other legitimate civil society organisations, including raids, arbitrary restrictions and interference with their lawful activities?
3. How will the Commission use its political dialogue with Türkiye and its support for civil society to protect independent LGBTIQ+ and human rights organisations from further repression, and to make clear that legitimate civil society activities and international funding of registered organisations must not be treated as evidence of wrongdoing?

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