

**Question for written answer E-004104/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)

Subject: New customs privileges for Türkiye despite its failure to implement the customs union vis-à-vis Cyprus

On 16 July 2026, the Commission announced its decision on new customs privileges – EU-Türkiye cooperation on mutual recognition of Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programmes – as an important step towards strengthening customs cooperation¹. The agreement allows customs authorities to take trusted trader status into account in their risk assessments and when determining the level of controls.

However, Türkiye continues to fail to fully implement the Additional Protocol to the Ankara Agreement vis-à-vis the Republic of Cyprus, as it is obliged to do, as pointed out by the Commission itself concerning the free movement of goods with all Member States, thus also hindering trade with Cyprus². What is more, the failure to implement the Protocol, by decision of the Council, must have repercussions on the accession negotiations³.

Nevertheless, the Union is proceeding with further facilitation for Turkish economic operators on the basis of the same customs union.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. How does it justify further deepening customs cooperation when Türkiye is not fulfilling its existing obligations towards a Member State?
2. How is it ensured that the implementation of the AEO agreement does not create additional benefits for Turkish businesses without corresponding treatment for Cypriot economic operators?
3. Does it intend to make further customs facilitation conditional on the full and non-discriminatory implementation of the customs union towards all Member States?

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¹ https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-and-turkiye-new-agreement-strengthen-customs-cooperation-2026-07-16_en.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-6-2006-1675-ASW_EN.html.

³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/turkiye/>.