

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001441/24
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(27 July 2024)**

Subject: Anti-Greek collaboration between Türkiye and Albania

Türkiye is constantly drawing Albania into actions against Greece.

Under Turkish guidance, Albania cancelled the 2009 Greek-Albanian agreement delimiting the Exclusive Economic Zone.

In conjunction with the Albania-Türkiye military agreement, there is a Turkish fleet in the Gulf of Vlorë (against whom...?).

Partly as a result of Turkish guidance, Albania is raising the 'Chameria' issue, having organised events at the Presidential Palace in Athens (2021) and at the Albanian Parliament (2022), and the Albanian Prime Minister has made some unacceptable statements on this issue (2021).

It should be noted that Albanian schoolbooks, without qualms (and without any warnings from Europe...), foster irredentism against Greece.

It should also be noted that the collaborators with the Fascist regime in Albania during the 2nd World War, who were expelled after the war ended, have no right to raise claims under Greek and European law.

For Greeks in Northern Epirus, it is obvious that there is Turkish support for actions against the Greek Ethnic Minority of Northern Epirus (EEMVI), including seizure of properties, demolition of Greek churches, legal restrictions on photography, the imprisonment of the elected Greek mayor of Himara (May 2023) and his illegal detention.

It should be noted that Türkiye has financial interests which stand to benefit from (and are promoting) the seizure of properties from Northern Epirotes.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission recognise that Albania is a pawn in Türkiye's anti-Greek strategy?
2. If yes, what punitive measures has it taken against the two problematic countries?

Submitted: 27.7.2024

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell i Fontelles on behalf of the European Commission
(14 October 2024)**

The EU attaches the greatest importance to respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

Through the enlargement process and the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Agreement ⁽¹⁾, the Commission is closely following reforms on the rule of law, the strengthening and protection of fundamental rights in Albania and provides policy recommendations in that regard.

Since 2024 Albania also participates in the annual Rule of Law Report alongside Member States. This exercise, which for enlargement countries does not include country-specific recommendations, aims to strengthen EU support for rule of law reforms, support Albania's reform efforts to achieve further progress in the accession process and help maintain a sustainable pattern of high standards after accession.

The EU regularly underlines the importance of maintaining constructive engagement in regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations as these are essential elements of the European integration process.

⁽¹⁾ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:22009A0428\(02\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:22009A0428(02))