

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000654/26
to the Commission
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)
(16 February 2026)**

Subject: Legal status and possible sanctions for the proposed electricity interconnection of Türkiye-occupied Cyprus

According to a recent report, Türkiye and the regime in the occupied territories of Cyprus are taking steps towards electricity interconnection. A statement by the Turkish Cypriot side claims that an authorisation or response from the EU to the relevant request is long overdue ⁽¹⁾.

The matter raises serious questions, as any authorisation or tolerance of such a project might imply indirect recognition of an entity not recognised by the EU, and would violate international law and relevant UN resolutions. It is also concerning that, for more than a year and a half, there has been no clear negative response from the EU, despite the political and legal significance of the matter. Questions are also raised with regard to what action the EU intends to take in the event that Türkiye unilaterally goes ahead with the project's implementation without authorisation.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

1. Has an official authorisation request been submitted for the electricity interconnection between Türkiye and the occupied areas, and what is the current legal status of its examination?
2. Why has no clear negative decision been issued so far, given that such a project would be in breach of international and EU law?
3. What measures or sanctions does the Commission intend to consider if the project is carried out without authorisation?

Submitted: 16.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Jørgensen on behalf of the European Commission
(24 April 2026)**

The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and remains committed to defending its interests and those of its Member States as well as to upholding regional stability.

In this context, it remains fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, within the UN framework, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the Union is founded and the *acquis* ⁽¹⁾.

The only project that the Commission is supporting politically and financially in order to terminate Cyprus' energy isolation is the Great Sea Interconnector, which is also one of the eight Energy Highways set out in the Grids Package ⁽²⁾, has the status as Project of Common Interest, and was awarded a grant of EUR 657 million from the Connecting Europe Facility.

A potential interconnection project between Türkiye and the Turkish Cypriot Community is not included in the 2026 Ten Year Network Development Plan of the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E).

The Commission is not aware of any contacts between the ENTSO-E and the Turkish Electricity Transmission Corporation (TEİAŞ) on the potential project mentioned, however, it will continue to monitor this matter.

In the context of the Observer Membership Agreement with ENTSO-E, TEİAŞ committed to ensure cooperation with all European Transmission System Operators (TSOs) at pan-European, regional and bilateral levels.

Fulfilling this requirement entails that the process of developing any type of interconnection is done with the consent of the TSO certified for the island of Cyprus under EU law.

¹ <https://www.politis.com.cy/politis-news/cyprus/983405/enw-kypros-kai-ellada-parepempsan-ton-gsi-se-nees-meletes-toyrkia-kai-psefdokratos-prokhoroun-se-ilektriki-diasyndesi>

⁽¹⁾ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/4bb4ddd1-4f20-4ee0-92db-926996ec8dd1_en?filename=t%C3%BCrkiye-report-2025.pdf, p. 62 and 63.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2945.