

EN
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Answer given by Ms Kos
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.8.2026)

The Commission is concerned about developments in Türkiye regarding the rule of law and the protection of fundamental rights. These concerns include the detention of Ekrem İmamoğlu¹, as outlined in the 2025 enlargement report². As an EU candidate country and long-standing member of the Council of Europe, Türkiye is expected to apply the highest democratic standards and practices.

The Commission will continue to promote these values in its relations with Türkiye and to address these issues in all relevant contacts with the Turkish authorities, including in the relevant subcommittee established under the Association Agreement with Türkiye³.

Since the end of 2024, the Turkish authorities have authorised several prison visits for the Türkiye rapporteur in the European Parliament and for the chair of the European Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights. The Commission will raise the lack of response to some requests in future meetings and dialogues with Turkish officials.

The criteria allowing or restricting such visits should reflect the requirements of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights⁴ and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. Difficulties in gaining access to inmates persist and in recent cases, the European Court of Human Rights⁵ has ruled that Türkiye violated prisoners' rights regarding visits and telephone calls at weekends.

Respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law are essential for the EU accession process. They will continue to be an integral part of EU-Türkiye relations.

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https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/fr/statement_25_836/STATEMENT_25_836_EN.pdf.

² https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/turkiye-report-2025_en.

³ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2000/378/oj>.

⁴ https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/d/echr/Convention_ENG, Article 8.

⁵ [https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{%22appno%22:\[%2239386/20%22\],%22itemid%22:\[%22001-247905%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{%22appno%22:[%2239386/20%22],%22itemid%22:[%22001-247905%22]}).