

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002188/26
to the Commission
Nikolas Farantouris (S&D)
(29 May 2026)**

Subject: Cyprus's unacceptable exclusion from COP31 processes

According to reports, ⁽¹⁾ Türkiye has excluded Cyprus from a series of informal preparatory meetings ahead of the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31), which will take place from 9-20 November 2026 in Antalya, Türkiye, with Türkiye holding the official presidency and hosting the summit and Australia assuming the presidency of negotiations within the framework of the summit. Türkiye is alleged to have implemented a broader practice of excluding Cyprus from informal processes of the event, not sending invitations to Cypriot authorities for important information meetings and even ignoring requests for bilateral contacts submitted by Cyprus on behalf of the EU as it held the Presidency of the Council of the EU. As the Commission has also stated, ⁽²⁾ this exclusion is unacceptable and inconsistent with Türkiye's status as host country of COP31.

Given that the above practice by Türkiye violates UN procedures and does not respect Cyprus's status as both an equal member of the UN and as the holder of the Presidency of the Council of the EU:

1. What specific actions does the Commission intend to take in order to ensure Cyprus's equal and unhindered participation in the COP31 processes?
2. What measures does the Commission intend to take if new instances or methods of excluding Cyprus are observed?

Submitted: 29.5.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(10 August 2026)**

In line with the EU position, the Commission considers that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process must be inclusive, transparent and open to all Parties to the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, with full respect for their rights.

This includes that all Parties to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement must be invited to the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) and any international meetings or events hosted or organised by Türkiye in its COP31 Presidency capacity. This also includes access to all relevant documentation and information.

The Commission has therefore made it clear to Türkiye, as incoming COP Presidency, that the exclusion of a UN Member State from the preparation process of COP31 is not acceptable. The same message was conveyed to the UN Secretariat and Australia, as incoming President of Negotiations for COP31.

The Commission will continue to advocate strongly for a fully inclusive UNFCCC process and will discuss with the EU Member States, on possible further steps if this is not ensured.

¹ <https://www.politico.eu/article/turkey-freezes-cyprus-out-cop31-climate-summit-preparations/>.

² <https://www.politico.eu/article/unacceptable-brussels-rebukes-turkey-for-excluding-cyprus-from-climate-meetings/>.