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E-002588/2026

Answer given by Ms Kos
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.10.2026)

The Commission is aware of the news report regarding the matter raised by the Honourable Member of the European Parliament. It notes that the building in question is a listed building and private property.

Türkiye is expected to respect international law, good neighbourly relations and the sovereignty of Member States. The Commission has reiterated, including through bilateral contacts with the Turkish authorities, that the EU remains fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue within the UN framework, in accordance with all relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded and its *acquis*. The Commission expects Türkiye to foster an environment conducive to the resumption of settlement talks under the UN's auspices.

The Commission has also consistently stressed the importance of protecting sites of cultural significance. In that regard, since 2012, the EU has provided EUR 35 million in funding to the bicommunal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage (TCCH) in Cyprus, covering around 80% of its budget. This funding derives from the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. Thanks to EU support, the TCCH has been able to restore or protect over 200 cultural and religious monuments across Cyprus.