

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002804/26
to the Commission
Geadis Geadis (ECR)
(7 July 2026)**

Subject: Exclusion of the Republic of Cyprus by the Turkish COP31 Presidency

The Turkish Presidency of COP31 allegedly excluded the Republic of Cyprus from preparatory briefings on the UN summit and is refusing requests for bilateral meetings submitted by Nicosia. The Republic of Cyprus was not invited by the Turkish Presidency to attend preparatory meetings at the UN headquarters in New York and faced objections even when it participated as a member of the EU delegation. The Commission described the exclusion as ‘unacceptable’, stressing that the EU is made up of 27 Member States that must enjoy equal representation.

In view of this:

1. What specific measures does the Commission intend to take to ensure that the Republic of Cyprus participates fully and on an equal footing in all preparatory and bilateral meetings and other COP31 work?
2. In the event that Türkiye continues to exclude the Republic of Cyprus from COP31 work, does the Commission intend to call on EU Member States not to participate in the summit, as a concrete sign of solidarity with a Member State of the Union?
3. Does the Commission consider that the participation of the European Union or its Member States in a COP31 summit where the host country excludes an EU Member State is consistent with the principles of solidarity, equal treatment and sincere cooperation enshrined in the Treaties?

Submitted: 7.7.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(21 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 the Republic of Türkiye in its COP31 Presidency capacity. This also includes access to all relevant documentation and information.

The Commission has therefore made it clear to the Republic of Türkiye, as incoming COP Presidency, that the exclusion of the Republic of Cyprus from COP31 or its preparatory process would be unacceptable. The same message was conveyed to the UN Secretariat and Australia, as incoming President of Negotiations for COP31.

The Republic of Türkiye has assured the EU that the Republic of Cyprus will not be excluded from future COP31 related meetings.

On 17 July 2026, the UNFCCC Secretariat circulated a notification regarding COP31 to all Parties to the UNFCCC ⁽¹⁾, including the Republic of Cyprus, in which the ‘Government of the Republic of Türkiye invites all Heads of State and Government of Parties to the Convention to the Summit’.

The Commission will continue to advocate strongly for a fully inclusive UNFCCC process. If necessary, the Commission will consider, together with EU Member States, possible further steps to ensure full inclusion.

⁽¹⁾ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/notification_to_parties_and_observer_states_cop31.pdf.