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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(25.9.2026)

Since 2006, the EU has allocated EUR 794.6 million to the aid programme for the Turkish Cypriot community under Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 ('Aid Regulation')¹.

The objective of the Aid Regulation is to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by promoting the socio-economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community; supporting infrastructure development; fostering reconciliation and confidence-building measures, strengthening civil society; improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU; and preparing for the implementation of the *acquis* upon a final settlement of the Cyprus issue. Ultimately, the programme benefits all Cypriots, who stand to gain from the reunification of their country.

The Commission does not conclude any contracts with representatives of the non-recognised Turkish Cypriot entity. Under the Aid Regulation, the granting and implementation of assistance shall not imply recognition of any public authority in Cyprus other than the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Commission implements the assistance through direct and indirect management in compliance with the EU Financial Regulation², thus ensuring protection of the financial interests of the EU. The relevant contracts provide for audit rights for the Commission and the European Court of Auditors, including document-based and on the spot checks, over contractors and subcontractors who have received EU funds. The programme is also subject to external evaluations, close monitoring on the ground, and budgetary scrutiny by the European Parliament.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/389/oj/eng>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj/eng>.