

EN

P-003179/2025

Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.9.2025)

According to Protocol 10 of the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union¹, the application of the *acquis* shall be suspended in those areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control. The arrests referred to have therefore not taken place on territory to which EU law currently applies. In this respect, the Commission lacks competence to deal with this matter.

The Commission shares the concerns of the Honourable Member over the detention of the five Greek-Cypriots and is actively engaging with multiple actors on the ground. It is in continuous contact with the United Nations, namely the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), which has been providing humanitarian assistance to the detainees, and remains attentive to their situation and well-being, while advocating for their swift and safe release.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:12003T/PRO/10>.