en | fr | de

Press release | 09.11.2016

Turkey Progress Report

Accession negotiations must be put on hold

The European Commission will present today its annual report on Turkey's progress on EU membership.

Commenting ahead of the report, Greens/EFA co-president **Rebecca Harms** said:

"The EU and its Member States must strongly condemn the recent arrests and call on the Turkish government to restore human rights and the rule of law.

"Accession negotiations with Turkey must be put on hold for as long as the regime continues to flout fundamental rights. This would be consistent with what was agreed by Member States in the 2005 principles governing the negotiations with Turkey.

"It is also clear that visa liberalisation will be impossible so long as the Turkish government fails to respect the necessary conditions."

Green EU-Turkey relations spokesperson **Bodil Valero** added:

"So long as the EU-Turkey deal is the only response to the refugee crisis, the Member States leave themselves dependent on President Erdogan. If we want to solve the refugee crisis, the EU must take matters into its own hands. Member States should finally fulfil their commitments on the resettlement of refugees and the EU must stop returning refugees to Turkey.

"We Greens will continue to raise the matter and to support the opposition and others who stand up for human rights, press freedom and rule of law in Turkey. We will call for a debate in the European Parliament on the current situation of HDP and an official delegation of the European Parliament to Turkey."

Recommended

Press release

European Council (CC BY 2.0)



Quote from Terry Reintke

27.11.2026

Press release

elijah-o-donnell-603766-unsplash.jpg



[Europe is watching, Prime Minister Babiš - stop steali…]

25.11.2026

Press release

©jonathan-marchal

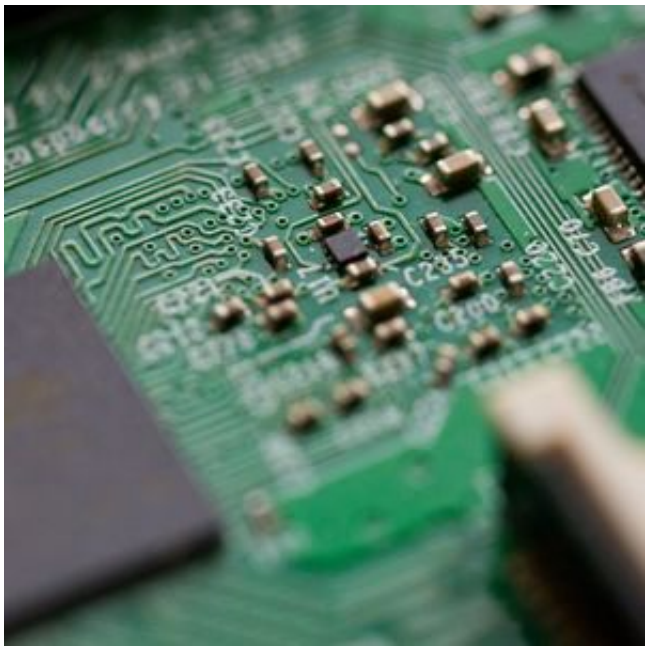


Tilly METZ elected European Parliament Vice-President

12.11.2026

Press release

chris-ried



Digital Fairness Act falls short on addictive design

11.11.2026

Responsible MEPs



Rebecca Harms

Member



Bodil Valero

Vice-President

Contact person



David Weir

Press & Media Advisor EN (English language press)

Please share

- E-Mail