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E-000673/2021

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(31.3.2021)

Cultural diversity is a key asset of the EU. Its protection and promotion are central to the EU's cultural policy. In this context, the Commission called for the full implementation of the 2005 United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in its annual report on Turkey<sup>1</sup> and will continue to do so until full implementation.

The EU Member States are responsible for their own policies in the field of culture; the role of the Commission is to help address common challenges. The Commission is not involved in the exploratory talks between Greece and Turkey and the agenda of these talks is set by the two parties.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/turkey\\_report\\_2020.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/turkey_report_2020.pdf)