



IDENTITY
AND DEMOCRACY

PLENARY BOOKLET

Identity and Democracy



APRIL 26 - 29

PLENARY SESSION

2021

EU-TURKEY: THE DICTATOR'S BLACKMAIL CONTINUES

MARCO ZANNI, President ID Group



For some weeks now, the EU's weakness in its relations with Turkey has been in the public eye of the world.

The visit of Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel to Ankara on the 7th of April will not be remembered as a crucial moment for the rebalancing of geopolitical dynamics between Europe and Turkey, but as yet another slap in the face given by dictator Erdoğan to a continent that does not emancipate itself from the blackmail of an authoritarian regime, moreover lavishly financed by Brussels for an inefficient management of the migrant phenomenon.

The evidence of the facts has now turned the European hope of starting to build a "positive dynamic" with Turkey, as reported in the Council conclusions of last March, into a utopian exercise in itself.

An incomprehensible situation made even more paradoxical by the recent decision of the United States to recognise the Armenian genocide that took place during the First World War.

So, while the powers of the world fearlessly face the dictator's predictable wrath, the EU once again decides to stay back, thus taking part in the dangerous game of a regime.



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Marco Zanni, President ID Group, Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

DIPLOMATIC VISIT TO ANKARA: THE HUMILIATION IS NOT ABOUT THE SOFA

Nicolas BAY, 1st Vice-President ID Group



The trip to Ankara by Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel was a new opportunity for Brussels to humiliate itself, and with it Europe.

Sofagate, a ridiculous tussle over protocol, hid the real scandal.

The main problem is the Turkish policy against us.

The countless provocations and aggressions in the Mediterranean, in Cyprus, in Greece, by stirring up Islamism in Europe and by creating unbearable migratory pressure, should have justified threats: end of the accession process, end of the customs union, end of European financing!

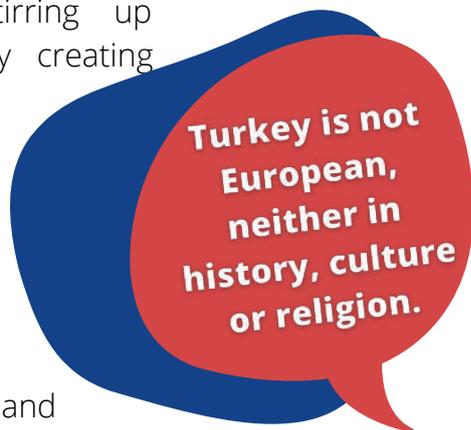
Far from it, Ms. Von der Leyen and Mr. Michel wanted to soften Ankara by making more and more concessions.

That is the real humiliation.

Let's take this opportunity to remind Charles Michel of the European tradition of gallantry: men don't sit down until they are sure that women have a seat.

By aligning himself with Turkish standards Mr Michel demonstrated that, beyond the customs of courtesy or protocol, this story reminds us of the fracture, in terms of values, which separates the Muslim world from Europe.

Turkey is not European, neither in history, culture or religion.



Nicolas Bay, 1st Vice-President ID Group,
French delegation - Rassemblement National

THE EU MUST FINALLY LIBERATE ITSELF FROM ITS DEPENDENCE ON TURKEY

Jörg MEUTHEN, 2nd Vice-President ID Group



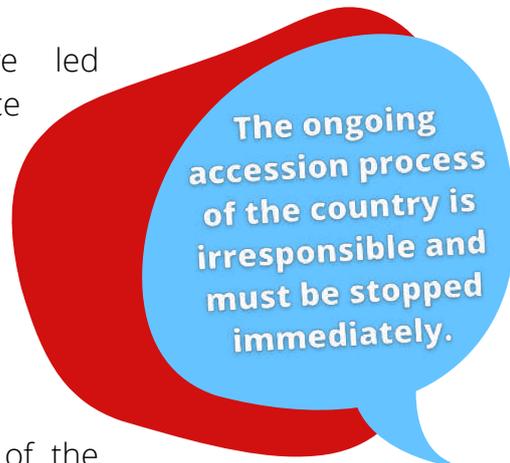
It is embarrassing how submissively and indecisively the EU's heads Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel are dealing with the Turkish President Erdoğan.

The EU must clarify this ultimately, as a sign of solidarity with Greece and Cyprus and even more to protect the safety of us all which is threatened by Turkey and its President Erdoğan.



Their latest visit to Ankara has been another clear proof of the European appeasement policy towards Turkey which is freely continuing with the aggression against its neighbouring states.

The European countries have led themselves into a fatal dependence on Turkey through the Pact on migration of 2016 — the EU must finally liberate itself from this dependence and react clearly to Turkish aggression.



The ongoing accession process of the country is irresponsible and must be stopped immediately.

A state which does not recognise and respect its neighbours' borders and does not share our fundamental values of democracy and freedom, may never become a member of the European Union.



Jörg Meuthen, 2nd Vice-President ID Group,
German Delegation - Alternative für Deutschland

THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

Marco CAMPOMENOSI, Italian Delegation



The Conference on the Future of Europe has been created with the ambitious aim of paving the way for reforms in the EU's future direction and policymaking.

My party, Lega, is in favour of a revision of the EU's operating mechanisms and will always support any serious discussion on the future of Europe, including the necessary changes to the Treaties.

We believe, however, that such an instrument will only be meaningful if it becomes an opportunity to reflect on the EU's past failures: a profound self-critique on the political mistakes that harmed our citizens and weakened the European bloc's position on the international political scene is needed.

It is not realistic to expect the debate to produce any significant contribution to the European set-up without acknowledging the policies that failed to provide concrete answers on matters such as the economic crisis or the internal security and now the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, let us not be fooled by blaming the pandemic for the growth impairment of the Union in comparison to third countries.

We therefore welcome a greater involvement of citizens as a way to bring our institutions closer to their real needs and problems, provided that broad democratic participation and critique are fully respected.

For a real change, one must bear in mind that Europe's future must relaunch the identity of its people and nations.



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Marco Campomenosi, Head of Italian delegation - LEGA PER SALVINI PREMIER

"NO" TO THE ADHESION OF TURKEY TO EUROPE

Jérôme RIVIERE, French Delegation



After sofatgate and the humiliation of the Commission and the Council in Ankara, it is the turn of the European Parliament to display its incapacity all over the world.

On Thursday 22 April, the Foreign Affairs Committee voted on the annual report on the European Commission's positions on Turkey's accession process.

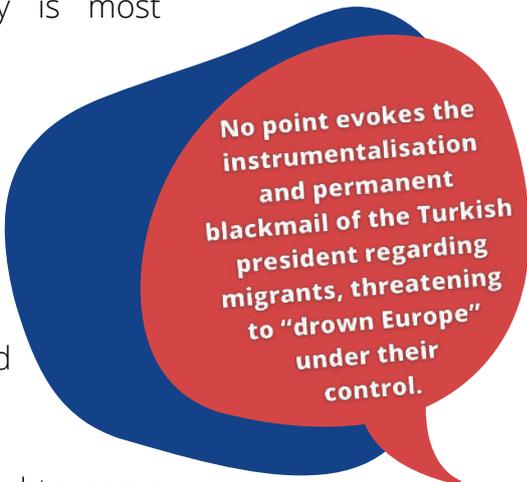
The text focuses on attacks on the rule of law and fundamental freedoms in Turkey. Of course, the undermining of the rule of law in Turkey is most reprehensible.

But the report avoids most of the burning questions, even though they directly concern the security of European Nations, openly threatened by Erdogan's provocations and multiple aggressions.

There are many oversights and to name just one, it is important to emphasize that no point evokes the instrumentalisation and permanent blackmail of the Turkish president regarding migrants, threatening to "drown Europe" under their control.

Even worse, the report regrets that the Turkish atrocities are undermining the accession process.

This text is further proof of the blindness of European ideology, which refuses to see the Turkish enemy when the latter shoots him, and still believes in a process of accession which should be definitively buried.



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Jérôme Rivière, Head of French delegation - Rassemblement National

FUTURE OF EUROPE CONFERENCE: DEBATE OR THEATRE?

Gerolf Annemans, Flemish Delegation



In the next year or so, the so-called 'Conference on the Future of Europe' will assemble the big EU institutions, the Member states, citizens and other stakeholders to discuss what should be the future shape and ambition of the European Union.

I believe this should be a debate that is open and sincere.

A debate that is in touch with what has emerged from all elections all over Europe in recent years, namely less European Union and more caution and freedom regarding voluntary European cooperation.

Or it will become a theatre performance à la Macron's 'great debate', where any critical sound is put aside and made invisible.

The Conference will cover some ten policy areas such as climate change and environment, health, economy, rule of law, digital transformation, democracy and ... migration.

This last topic was at first not even a theme of the Conference, but thanks to our demand and intervention, the European citizens can now express their thoughts on the EU migration policy.

Our voice should not only be heard within the formal assembly of the Conference. A digital platform has been established for all citizens and grassroots organisations to participate, and I invite you to take part in it and have your voice heard!



Thanks to our demand European citizens can now express their thoughts on EU migration policy.



Gerolf Annemans, Head of Flemish Delegation - Vlaams Belang

EU VALUES INSTEAD OF COVID VACCINE



Harald VILIMSKY, Austrian Delegation

While there has been haggling and bargaining in the allocation of COVID-vaccines and the Member States have been plunged into vaccination chaos thanks to Commission President von der Leyen, the money is spent more freely when it comes to ideological measures taken at EU level.

The Council has already decided and the European Parliament will approve this week that the "Rights and Values" programme will receive around 1.55 billion euros.

In the Council's press release, the adoption of the "Rights and Values" programme is justified by the fact that, in addition to combating the economic, health and social effects of the Corona pandemic, the strengthening of democratic and open society is of utmost urgency.

Among other things, the programme should protect and promote "EU values" and raise awareness of the "common European history".

However, instead of putting every available euro into eliminating the effects of the coronavirus by buying enough vaccines, the media prefers to present European superiority to the rest of the world,

and to finance a programme worth billions that conveys those values that pursue a centralist left-wing ideological course.

Precisely this arrogance and 'ideologisation', which is paid for with taxpayers' money without hesitation, is one of the reasons why the EU is incapable of solving these immediate crises. Therefore, a clear "no" to this pointless expenditure!



Among other things, the programme should protect and promote "EU values" and raise awareness of the "common European history".



Harald Vilimsky, Head of Austrian Delegation - Freiheitliche Partei Österreich

WE REJECT THE EUROPEAN UNION'S COMMON ASYLUM POLICY



Ivan DAVID, Czech Delegation

I voted against the Report on the implementation of Article 43 of Directive 2013/32 / EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (A9-0005 / 2021), as it supports efforts to restrict the right of Member States to decide on asylum, thereby denying their sovereignty.

The proposal supports further increased immigration of people who are not guaranteed to be able and willing to to make a contribution in host countries in the future.

It is even suggested that no account should be taken of whether immigrants have any identity documents and that they should be considered as asylum seekers even if they present forged documents.

It is intended to make it easier for them to enter any EU country, even though they are not refugees under international law, but economic immigrants.

Although children should enjoy special protection, it is not permissible to examine the age of immigrants.

It is not acceptable for non-governmental non-profit organisations to be involved in monitoring the process of accepting or rejecting immigrants at national borders and even to be involved in decision-making.



Ivan David, Head of Czech Delegation - Svoboda a přímá demokracie

CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE – POLITICAL MANOEUVRE TO CREATE THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE?



Laura HUHTASAARI, Finnish Delegation

A lot has been said and written about the "Conference on the Future of Europe" and many have high hopes for it.

Knowing how the EU works, it is not difficult to guess the outcome of a conference of this caliber.

We will see a "democratic contribution" of carefully selected NGOs, experts and politicians.

President Von der Leyen said in March 2020: "Citizens' expectations are clear: they want to have their say on the future of Europe, on matters which affect their lives. Our promise today is equally clear: We will listen. And then, we will act."

The EU elite might listen and they will also act, but as they want.

To conceal the real plans, they will not talk about eurobonds, common debt, EU army and other plans to create an EU superstate and to abolish sovereign national states.

This conference will be a huge disappointment to everybody who wants to have an objective and analytical discussion about the future of Europe.

Just think about the misleading name of the conference: the continent called Europe is not the same as the EU.



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Laura Huhtasaari, MEP Finnish Delegation
- Perussuomalaiset

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

Jaak MADISON, Estonian Delegation



One of the human rights urgencies that will be debated during this week's plenary is the blasphemy laws in Pakistan - this topic was proposed by the ID Group. The European Parliament will also adopt a resolution on the issue.

Christians are the most persecuted religious community in the world - according to a 2019 report commissioned by former UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt, 80% of religious persecutions are directed against Christians.

Christians constitute a minority of less than 2% in Pakistan and the persecution of Christians remains a topic of grave concern.

In terms of the Constitution of Pakistan, Islam is the state religion in the country and all legislation has to be consistent with Sharia law.

The ID Group has tabled a resolution shedding light on the plight of Christians in Pakistan, who are being persecuted through the arbitrary interpretation and application of blasphemy laws.

It is estimated that approximately 20 Christians that have been found guilty of blasphemy remain on death row.

We consider that Member States have a particular role to play in condemning and confronting attacks against communities that share their Christian heritage.

We, therefore, also urge the Member States and the Commission to reassess Pakistan's eligibility to receive aid from European states.



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Jaak Madison, MEP Estonian Delegation -
Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond

NO TO TURKEY IN THE EU!

CLICK HERE TO SIGN OUR PETITION



No to Turkey in the EU! - Stop negotiating

Turkey is still officially a candidate country to join the European Union.

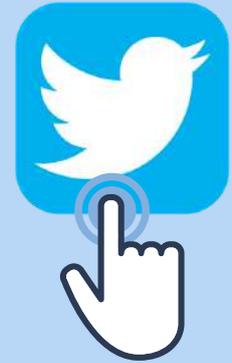
It was an enormous mistake by the EU to accept that candidacy. First of all, Turkey is not a European country. It is also not a democracy: the Erdogan regime is persecuting minorities and violating the principle of freedom of speech. Moreover, as there are no more internal borders within the EU, the accession of Turkey would lead to a huge and uncontrollable migration flow towards Europe.

Making things even worse: Turkey is posing a threat to the security and sovereignty of EU Member States such as Greece and Cyprus. Erdogan is also supporting Islamist terrorist groups in Syria, Iraq, Nagorno-Karabach, Libya, etc.

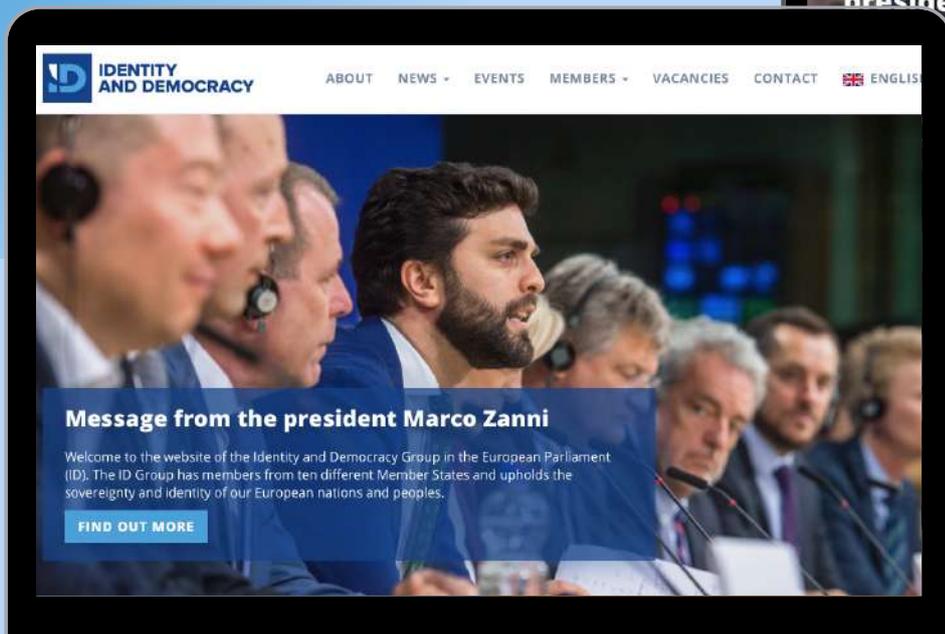
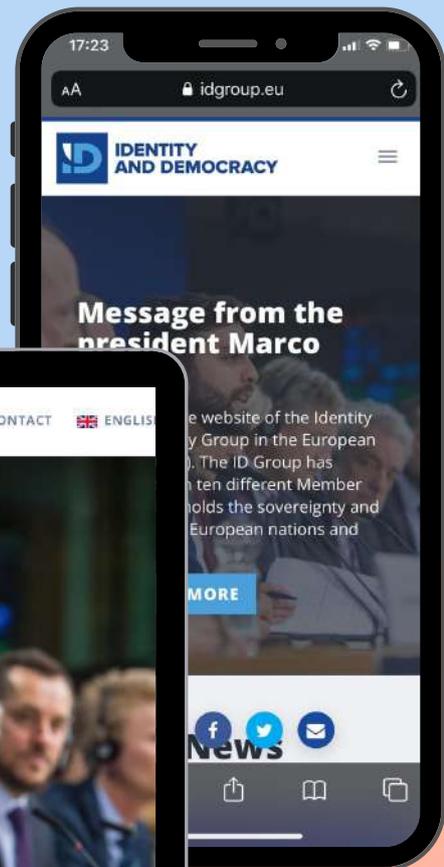
The unacceptable provocations by the Erdogan regime should not be rewarded by continuing endless and pointless accession negotiations with Turkey. Therefore the Identity and Democracy Group (ID) in the European Parliament wants these negotiations to be put to an end. The 'pre-accession' money flow to Turkey should also be stopped.

Support the common sense position of the ID Group and sign the petition [here!](#)

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Defending the identity of peoples and the sovereignty of nations!

The Identity and Democracy group, founded in June 2019, has 74 members in the European Parliament, coming from 10 countries: Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Flanders (Belgium), Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, Estonia, the Netherlands



**IDENTITY
AND DEMOCRACY**

IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY GROUP

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