

*Wednesday, 9 March 2011*

*Explanation of vote:*

*Pino Arlacchi (S&D), in writing.* – My statement aims to justify my abstention on the resolution on Turkey. I abstained because I did not agree with its lack of positive inspiration and its lack of a clear appreciation of some key features of the Turkish Government's recent action. In this resolution there is too much of a paternalistic attitude towards a great country that does not deserve this treatment.

There are too many demands on Turkey, with too many details and too many unrealistic standards to be met. If these standards were applied to the EU Member States, several of them would not qualify for EU accession. I hope this attitude towards Turkey will change over time, and I hope this Parliament will show a stronger commitment to the goal of having Turkey in the EU soon.

[source: [www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu)]