

Motions

Motion number	To be completed by EFA Secretariat
Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA	Çiğdem Asafoğlu
Member party	DEB Partisi
Title (of the Motion)	Muslim Turkish Minority of Western Thrace (Greece) claims its rights
<p>a) Western Thrace is currently the poorest region in the country and Greece has not taken any political, financial, social or any other measures to improve the economic situation in Western Thrace and it is the dominant opinion among the minority that this is not well-intentioned. The Thrace Development Commission, which was created above the parties in 2020, could not be effective. The biggest indicator of this economically distressed society is the discrimination faced by the people dealing with agriculture, discrimination in financial supports, the decrease in the minority population and the increase in immigration to other countries in search of financial ways.</p> <p>b) The Greek Government disregards the Minority's autonomous right to elect religious leaders and administer religious institutions, and tries to impose its own appointed religious officials on the Minority.</p> <p>c) One of the biggest problems seen in education today is the increase in the rate of closing minority schools. Apart from this, problems such as bilingual education and book problems continue.</p> <p>d) Greece does not comply with the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and does not allow the reopening or reestablishment of Xanthi Turkish Union and other Associations.</p> <p>Therefore, the FEP Party declares:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greece must unconditionally respect the fundamental rights of the individual and collective autonomy in Western Thrace region and the rights given by the Treaty of Lausanne. • Greece should ensure full protection of minority individuals and organizations and ensure full judicial independency in all cases involving minorities. • Greece should engage in a sincere and wide dialogue with its Muslim Turkish minority on the above-mentioned issues and should not ignore the minority's real problems. • It should take initiatives to eliminate the problems arising from regional economic and educational imbalances and make sure that there are no 2nd and 3rd class Greek and European citizens in the future. 	