

Question

04/10/2022

To the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Subject: Greece's signature of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Mr. Minister,

Since 2017, the text of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) has been adopted by a majority of the UN General Assembly, and the Treaty has entered into full force and effect after the number of 50 countries that have ratified it has reached 50 as of January 2021. Now today the number of countries that have ratified the NPT has increased to 66 countries, including EU member states such as Austria and Ireland, while another 86 have signed the NPT and are expected to ratify it by their national parliaments.

It is noted in this regard that in our country, given the peace-loving feelings of the Greek people, a number of civil society organizations and more than 50 local authorities, as well as the KEDE, have come out in favor of the signing of the SAPO through the adoption of relevant resolutions.

Unfortunately, Greece is among the countries that have not signed the UN treaty banning nuclear weapons, a fact that contradicts both the history of the country, the struggles for world peace, and common sense, which sees only dangers in the existence of weapons of mass destruction. Particularly for our country, which the monumental governments and that of the New Democracy, have turned in recent years into an outpost of the USA in the Eastern Mediterranean region, through the multiplication of military bases and all kinds of facilities, there is a danger that it could become a target of a nuclear strike if the USA proceeds either with the storage and/or trafficking of nuclear weapons through Greek territory.

Particularly in the current circumstances where war and tensions in the wider region and globally are constantly escalating and given that threats to use nuclear weapons have already been issued, the most logical thing would be for all countries that desire peace and cooperation to rush to sign this treaty.

However, the present government - like the previous one - stubbornly refuses to sign this treaty, effectively siding with the countries that possess nuclear weapons, primarily the United States ... The reasons for this attitude, and how this attitude serves the national interests of a country that does not possess such weapons, have not been clarified. In response to a similar question tabled two years ago by MeRA25, the then Deputy Minister responsible never replied on the substance, contenting himself with generalisations and euphemisms.

Given that the current circumstances, as mentioned above, make the signing of this treaty more than urgent, can the Minister be asked:

1. Do you intend to sign the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which is in force, immediately?
2. Why has Greece not yet signed this treaty?
3. What and who is served by Greece's failure to sign the TPNW?