



*Permanent Delegation of Türkiye
to the European Union
Ambassador*

Z-2025/70946263/40027611 -

Brussels, 21 May 2025

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

I am writing to you to express our dismay at your statements that aimed to distort historical facts regarding the Turkish War of Independence for domestic political purposes, and share some facts regarding that period of time, if you are interested in facing the truth.

The so-called "Pontian Greek Genocide" is a brazen allegation that has no basis either in history or in international law. As you must be well aware, the Greek army intended to invade western Anatolia, taking advantage of the fall of the Ottoman Empire, starting from 15 May 1919 with the instigation and active support of the Entente powers, and local Greek terror groups and irregular bands, formed, provoked and armed by Greece and the Entente powers started an atrocious ethnic cleansing campaign against the Turkish civilian population along the Turkish Black Sea coastal region with the aim of creating an ethnic "Pontian-Greek state". During the invasion that lasted until the triumph of Turkish forces in late 1922, the Greek army and local Greek insurgents and bandits committed unspeakable crimes against Turkish civilian population in the regions under occupation.

In view of the alarming reports of atrocities perpetrated by the invading Greek army and their local fifth columns, the Entente powers were obliged to investigate those war crimes by establishing a "Commission of Inquiry". The Commission had to admit in its report that the Greek occupation, which had created a scene of cruelty, had turned into a disgraceful invasion. The atrocities were eventually put on the record in the Lausanne Peace Treaty of 1923, which was signed following the victorious end of the Turkish War of Independence. The article 59 of the Treaty established that the acts of the Greek army in Anatolia violated the laws of war, and obliged Greece to pay compensation thereof. In short, contrary to the unsubstantiated claims of Greek irredentism, it was Greece itself that engaged in a brutal campaign of invasion of Anatolia, committed unspeakable atrocities against Turkish civilian population, and finally admitted to its crimes and was obliged to compensate under the Lausanne Peace Treaty.

Nikolaos ANADIOTIS
Parlement européen
Bât. ALTIERO SPINELLI 04G351
60, rue Wiertz B-1047 Bruxelles