Turkey’s military operation in Northern Syria

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Athens, Greece, on 24-26 October 2019:

Acknowledges:
- the role and sacrifice of the Kurds in assisting in defeating Da’esh;
- the right of the Kurds to live in peace and to regional autonomy for Rojava.

Is concerned about:
- the hasty withdrawal of troops by the US, leaving the Kurds and other minorities without shelter for Turkish bombardment;
- the escape of Da’esh-affiliated prisoners that were in the custody of the Kurds;
- possible ethnic cleansing of Kurds and other minorities as a result of the Turkey/ Russia agreed safety zone in Northern Syria;
- the decreased ability of humanitarian organisations to deliver aid safely in the region.

Condemns:
- the Turkish unilateral military invasion in northern Syria;
- any attempt to change the ethnic composition of the area;
- the forced expulsion to the Turkish-occupied Zone of Syria of Syrian refugees.

Calls for:
- Turkey to address its security concerns in accordance with international humanitarian law;
- the immediate withdrawal of the Turkish military from northern Syria;
- the European Union to use all mechanisms at its disposal to compel Turkey to cease its military action;
- ALDE to agree and push for the EU to implement and arms embargo on Turkey as long as they are involved in an armed conflict in Syria;
- the Kurds to be included in discussions concerning peace and in the constitutional committee;
- the creation of an International Tribunal in order to prosecute the Da’esh terrorists;
- a UN peacekeeping force to ensure border security between Turkey and Rojava.