

Question for written answer E-002735/2025/rev.1

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Secret negotiations between Türkiye and Syria on the delimitation of maritime zones in the Eastern Mediterranean

According to a letter from the Turkish Foreign Minister to the Office of the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, published today¹, Türkiye has initiated secret negotiations with the new regime in Syria on the delimitation of maritime zones beyond territorial waters in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Bearing in mind that Türkiye has very close relations with the new Syrian regime, and that the Turkish-Libyan memorandum of understanding – by which Türkiye tried to establish an Exclusive Economic Zone between Türkiye and Libya – violates international law, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the sovereign rights of Greece, as recognised by the European Council in its conclusions, can the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy say:

1. Are there any conditions for lifting sanctions on the Syrian regime? If so, what are they?
2. What steps will she take to prevent such an agreement and protect the sovereign rights of EU Member States in the Eastern Mediterranean?
3. What sanctions will she impose on both Türkiye and the new Syrian regime, should an agreement on the delimitation of maritime zones such as an EEZ or continental shelf between Syria and Türkiye violate international law and the sovereign rights of EU Member States?

Submitted: 3.7.2025

¹ <https://www.iefimerida.gr/kosmos/nordic-monitor-mystikes-diapragmateyseis-toyrkia-syria>