

**Question for written answer E-000379/2026**

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

Rule 144

**Nikolas Farantouris (The Left)**

Subject: Türkiye issues long-term NAVTEX in the Aegean with implications for international law and European sovereignty

Türkiye has issued an open-ended NAVTEX covering extensive maritime areas in the Aegean Sea<sup>12</sup>. At the same time, statements by the Turkish Ministry of Defence indicate that research activities in maritime jurisdictional areas in the Aegean should be coordinated with the Turkish authorities, while reference is also made to a demilitarisation regime for 23 inhabited Greek islands<sup>3</sup>.

NAVTEX is an international system for transmitting navigational warnings for the purpose of maritime safety. Its specific use, however, to make unilateral claims over maritime zones violates the International Law of the Sea and the principles of good neighbourliness.

Given that the areas in question concern the maritime zones and territories of an EU Member State, the issue takes on a clear European dimension, in particular with regard to respect for the sovereignty and sovereign rights of Member States, as enshrined in international law.

In view of the above:

1. How does the High Representative/Vice-President assess the use of NAVTEX in areas of the Aegean in relation to the violation of the International Law of the Sea and the principle of respect for the sovereignty of EU Member States?
2. What actions does the High Representative/Vice-President intend to take to ensure that NAVTEX announcements are not used to establish or promote unilateral claims against an EU Member State?
3. Does this abusive practice affect the framework of EU-Türkiye cooperation on security and defence issues?

Submitted: 29.1.2026

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkey-says-greece-must-coordinate-research-activities-contested-aegean-waters-2026-01-29/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/msbden-iran-abd-gerilimine-iliskin-aciklama-bolgemizde-huzur-ve-istikrarin-hakim-olmasina-yonelik-cabalarimizi-surduruyoruz-43095420>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.kathimerini.gr/world/564049186/toyrkia-aoristis-diarkeias-oi-navtex-mas-sto-aigaio-i-ellada-na-syntonizetai-mazi-mas-gia-ereynes/>