

Question for written answer E-002053/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Yannis Maniatis (S&D)

Subject: Regional Activity Centre on Climate Change's possible involvement in the preparation of Türkiye's 'Blue Homeland' bill

Türkiye is preparing a bill with a view to claiming maritime jurisdiction in parts of the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, based on the legally unfounded Turkish claim that the islands cannot have a continental shelf and EEZ, in total contradiction with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which is an integral part of the European acquis. The National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM)¹² of the University of Ankara, whose organisational structure includes the Regional Activity Centre on Climate Change (CC/RAC) of the UN³, has contributed to the bill, while until recently the director of the CC/RAC⁴ was also the CEO⁵ of DEHUKAM. According to DEHUKAM⁶, Türkiye, in cooperation with the EU, presented the proposal to create the CC/RAC, which was unanimously adopted by the Parties to the Barcelona Convention on 6 December 2023.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. Has it checked whether the CC/RAC contributed to the preparation of this bill?
2. Can it confirm that no European technical, financial or human resources have been allocated to the CC/RAC, which may have contributed to DEHUKAM's preparation of Türkiye's illegal maritime spatial planning?
3. Does it continue to support the 2023 decision on the CC/RAC, despite its relationship with DEHUKAM, whose positions are publicly at odds with the European acquis, such as UNCLOS?

Submitted: 19.5.2026

¹ <https://www.dehukam.org/en/2026/05/12/press-conference-held-on-current-developments-in-sea-and-maritime-law/>.

² <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/turkiye-confirms-maritime-rights-bill-for-blue-homeland/news>.

³ <https://www.dehukam.org/en/organizational-chart/>.

⁴ <https://www.instagram.com/p/DLFZ57sohaG/>.

⁵ <https://www.dehukam.org/mudur/>.

⁶ <https://www.dehukam.org/en/2023/12/06/climate-change-regional-activity-centre-cc-rac-hosted-by-turkiye-within-dehukam-has-been-established-under-united-nations-environment-programme>.