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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.2.2025)

The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and has called on Türkiye to fully respect international law, to de-escalate tensions in the interest of regional stability in the Eastern Mediterranean, and to promote good neighbourly relations in a sustainable way¹.

As highlighted by the European Council on several occasions, the EU remains fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, within the United Nations (UN) framework, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions² and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded and the *acquis*. Most lately, in April 2024, the European Council reiterated the particular importance the EU attributes to the resumption of and progress in the Cyprus settlement talks in further enhancing EU-Türkiye cooperation³.

From a legal and institutional point of view, decisions regarding restrictive measures against any third state rest solely with the Council of the EU, by the unanimity of Member States.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/57442/2022-06-2324-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

² https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/un_documents_type/security-council-resolutions/?ctype=Cyprus&cbtype=cyprus

³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/m5jlwe0p/euco-conclusions-20240417-18-en.pdf>