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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.3.2025)

The unconditional respect and the relentless promotion of international law, including criminal law, are at the heart of both the EU identity and foreign policy. The EU has taken note of the arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC) and reiterates its support to the ICC and its activities based on the principles set out in the Rome statute. All Member States as state parties to the Rome Statute are obliged to cooperate fully with the ICC, including regarding the implementation of arrest warrants. The High Representative/Vice-President had an exchange with Foreign Ministers at the December 2024 Foreign Affairs Council¹ on the importance of EU support to the ICC.

The EU keeps its diplomatic and trade relations with third countries under constant review. The EU has been consistently clear that political engagement and frank and open dialogue are the most effective way to convey the EU's concerns, including to Israeli partners. The High Representative/Vice-President convened the EU-Israel Association Council on 24 February 2025², which provided an opportunity for the EU and its Member States to discuss the situation in the Middle East and convey the EU's concerns.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2024/12/16/>

² <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-ministerial-meetings/2025/02/24/>