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E-000342/2025

Answer given by Ms Kos
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.4.2025)

The December 2024 Council conclusions on Enlargement¹ highlighted the EU's strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and in a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship with Türkiye. The Türkiye Report 2024² noted that since 2023, bilateral relations between Türkiye and Greece have improved, with Türkiye not engaging in any unauthorised drilling activities in the Eastern Mediterranean or in flights over Greek islands. As highlighted in the Council conclusions in December 2022³ and the European Council's conclusions of June 2022⁴, and in line with the obligations under the Negotiating Framework⁵, Türkiye must respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all Member States. It is expected to make an unequivocal commitment to good neighbourly relations (an essential part of Türkiye's accession process), international agreements and the peaceful settlement of disputes having recourse, if necessary, to the International Court of Justice.

Accession negotiations with Türkiye have been at a standstill since June 2018, following decisions by the Council⁶. As a result, the Commission has significantly reduced pre-accession financial support to Türkiye, redirecting funding for fundamental rights towards civil society organisations and to support EU-wide objectives such as the green and digital transition. As a candidate country, Türkiye remains eligible for Instrument for Pre-accession assistance funding.

¹ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-16983-2024-INIT/en/pdf>

² https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/turkiye-report-2024_en

³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/60797/st15935-en22.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/57442/2022-06-2324-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>

⁵ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2018-12/st20002_05_tr_framedoc_en.pdf

⁶ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/35863/st10555-en18.pdf>