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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.6.2025)

The EU is fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, within the United Nations (UN) agreed framework, in accordance with all relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded and the *acquis*. It remains crucial that Türkiye commits and actively contributes to such a peaceful settlement, including its external aspects. As per the conclusions of the Special European Council of 17-18 April 2024, the EU attaches particular importance to resumption of and progress in the Cyprus settlement talks in further enhancing EU-Türkiye cooperation¹. As per latest Council conclusions on Enlargement, welcoming the recent steps taken by the UN Secretary-General towards a resumption of settlement talks, the EU remains ready to play an active role in supporting all stages of the UN-led process, with all appropriate means at its disposal². These messages are continuously communicated to Turkish authorities.

The EU remains committed to continue cooperation in areas of common interest on the basis of an equal commitment on Türkiye's side to advance on a path of cooperation and de-escalation.

Concerning restrictive measures, under Article 29 of the Treaty on European Union³, it is strictly the prerogative of the Council, through its Member States, to take, with unanimity, decisions to adopt, renew or lift sanctions regimes. The EU will continue to call on Türkiye to comply with its international obligations, and with the EU values, as a candidate country for EU accession. It should be recalled that accession negotiations with the country remain at a standstill since 2018, in line with the decision of the Council⁴.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/m5jlwe0p/euco-conclusions-20240417-18-en.pdf>.

² <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-16983-2024-INIT/en/pdf>.

³ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=legissum:25_1.

⁴ '35. The Council notes that Turkey has been moving further away from the European Union. Turkey's accession negotiations have therefore effectively come to a standstill and no further chapters can be considered for opening or closing and no further work towards the modernisation of the EU-Turkey Customs Union is foreseen', Brussels, 26 June 2018 (OR. en) 10555/1.