

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002616/25
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(30 June 2025)

Subject: Assessment under international law of Israel's and the USA's attacks on Iran

1. What view does the Commission take, in respect of international law, of Israel's attack on Iran given the Washington Post's ⁽¹⁾ revelations that it was not preceded by an imminent threat from nuclear weapons and that other reasons were decisive?
2. Does the Commission share the view of NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, who qualified the US attack on Iran as 'decisive action' and 'truly extraordinary' in a text message to Donald Trump ⁽²⁾?

Submitted: 30.6.2025

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(12 August 2025)

The EU expressed its regret over the dangerous escalation in the Middle East following Israeli strikes on Iran and Iran's response, warning of potential destabilisation and further escalation.

While reaffirming its strong commitment to peace, security and stability in the Middle East, the EU continues to urge all parties to abide by international law, show restraint, and refrain from taking action, which could lead to a new escalation, as most recently stated in the European Council conclusions of 26 June 2025 ⁽¹⁾.

The EU remains clear that Iran must never acquire nuclear weapons. However, the EU firmly believes that lasting security must be sought through diplomacy.

The EU continues to engage all stakeholders to encourage a return to negotiations, actively pursuing diplomatic channels and reaffirming that a negotiated solution is the only path forward to resolve the Iranian nuclear issue and ensure regional stability.

The EU supports the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to uphold safeguards and backs the Non-proliferation Treaty as the cornerstone of global non-proliferation.

It rejects any attempt to undermine the Treaty and calls on Iran to resume cooperation with the Agency as per its legal obligations.

¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/06/23/netanyahu-iran-attack-nuclear-intelligence/>

² <https://www.zdfheute.de/politik/ausland/nato-gipfel-trump-rutte-sms-100.html>

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/06/26/european-council-conclusions-on-the-middle-east/>.