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E-003188/2025

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(1.10.2025)

The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and in a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship with Türkiye. An unequivocal commitment to good neighbourly relations, to international agreements and to the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the United Nations (UN) Charter, as well as abstaining from unilateral actions which run counter to EU interests, violate international law and the sovereign rights of Member States, remains a requirement to ensure such a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean¹.

The delimitation of the continental shelf and exclusive economic zones should be addressed through dialogue and negotiations in good faith, in accordance with international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea², having recourse, if necessary, to the International Court of Justice.

The EU, through its officials, statements and reports, has repeatedly emphasised these positions, including its commitment to the implementation of the Great Sea Interconnector, which is a project of common interest financially supported by a EUR 657 million grant under the Connecting Europe Facility, along with an additional EUR 100 million grant from the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

The EU retains the right to use, if need be, the instruments and options at its disposal to defend its interests and those of its Member States.

¹ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/joint-communication-european-council-state-play-eu-turkiye-political-economic-and-trade-relations-0_en.

² https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf.