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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.10.2025)

The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and has called on Türkiye to fully respect international law, to de-escalate tensions in the interest of regional stability in the Eastern Mediterranean, and to promote good-neighbourly relations in a sustainable way¹. In the same context, the EU remains determined to use, if need be, the instruments and options at its disposal to defend its interests and those of its Member States.

The EU has noted the recent improvements in relations between Greece and Türkiye in the expectation that they will be sustainable². To this respect, Greece and Türkiye have activated multiple work strands. The EU has also made clear that Türkiye must respect the sovereignty, and territorial integrity of all Member States, as well as all their sovereign rights and continues to expect Türkiye to unequivocally commit to the peaceful settlement of disputes, having recourse, if necessary, to the International Court of Justice³.

The Commission does not have information about submission of the Türkiye's declaration of marine parks to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Such map is not published anywhere on the Maritime Spatial Planning Global (MSPglobal) site. MSPglobal country profile for Türkiye does not display any map and contains a disclaimer, that 'the information in this country profile does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Links to other sites are provided for information only'.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/57442/2022-06-2324-euco-conclusions-en.pdf>.

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

³ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-16707-2023-INIT/en/pdf>.