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E-003210/2025

Answer given by Mr Kadis
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.10.2025)

1. The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure environment in the Mediterranean and continues to expect that all countries respect the jurisdiction, sovereignty and sovereign rights of all Member States, in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Additionally, according to UNCLOS and customary international law, coastal States have sovereignty over their territorial sea, including for the adoption of laws and regulations related to fishing, innocent passage as well as to take the necessary steps to prevent non-innocent passage.

2. The European Fisheries Control Agency deploys a patrol vessel on a permanent basis in the Mediterranean. Its activities may be complemented by aircraft and satellite monitoring and support activities to national authorities if requested.

3. The Greek European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) programme provides key support for the resilience and competitiveness of the fisheries sector and coastal communities. It supports modernisation and innovation to boost market competitiveness, training related to sustainable and innovative practices and projects aimed at diversifying income. A significant portion of the funds is allocated to fisheries control and enforcement, including enhancing surveillance of fishing activity and traceability, as well as addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

The Member States' Managing Authorities may select for support operations under the scope, priorities and specific objectives of their national EMFAF programme and in line with applicable Union and national law. The Commission works with Greece to ensure its EMFAF programme meets sector-specific needs.