

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003410/25
to the Commission
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)
(3 September 2025)**

Subject: Provocation by the Albanian Ministry of Defence

While progress is being made in the negotiations on Albania's accession to the EU, and with Albania already having received EUR 64.5 million in pre-financing in the framework of the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans, an article making reference to the 'Greater Albania' theory has been published in the official gazette of the Albanian Ministry of Defence, the 'Gazeta Ushtria'. In particular, the article features a map presenting extensive Greek territories (Epirus, the Ionian Islands, Western Macedonia) as 'historical Albanian regions' in the so-called 'National Albania'. This shows that this is an attempt to claim territories beyond Albania's current borders, something which is also promoted by Albania's extreme nationalist rhetoric.

The fact that this position is being expressed through the official gazette of the Albanian Ministry of Defence — at a time when Albania seeks to join the EU — calls into question the country's ability to engage with neighbouring states within the European framework and to promote good neighbourly relations with them.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. To what extent does it consider these actions to be compatible with the obligation of good neighbourly relations, but also with regard to peace, security and stability in the Western Balkans?
2. What does it intend to do in the context of solidarity between Member States to make Albania comply with its pre-accession obligations?

Submitted: 3.9.2025

**Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(9 February 2026)**

As stated in the Commission's 2025 Annual Report on Albania ⁽¹⁾, good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation form an essential part of Albania's European integration process.

They contribute to stability, reconciliation and a climate conducive to addressing open bilateral issues and the legacies of the past. The Commission's 2025 Annual Report also notes that relations between Albania and Greece remained good overall, and political contacts continued.

The Commission is aware of the article published in the Gazeta Ushtria and took note that the map in question was swiftly removed following its publication.

The Commission will continue to work to ensure Albania's full compliance with its pre-accession obligations through the accession negotiation process in line with the revised enlargement methodology ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ SWD(2025) 750 final.

⁽²⁾ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/ef0547a9-c063-4225-b1b4-93ff9027d0c0_en?filename=enlargement-methodology_en.pdf.