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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.2.2026)

The EU is founded on respect for international law, including the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the peaceful settlement of disputes, as enshrined in the UN Charter.

The EU has a strategic interest in the development of a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship with Türkiye. In this respect, the EU is re-engaging with Türkiye in a gradual, proportionate and reversible manner, in areas of mutual interest, based on the recommendations put forward by the Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President Joint Communication on the state of play of EU-Türkiye political, economic and trade relations¹ of November 2023 and in line with the European Council Conclusions² of April 2024.

As regards the preparation of independent historical or legal studies, international organisations such as the UN and UNESCO have their own mandates and procedures. The EU supports historical research and dialogue aimed to foster mutual understanding and reconciliation, while remaining focused on current and future-oriented engagement that contributes to peace, stability and respect for international law.

¹ JOIN(2023) 50 final.

² EUCO 12/24.