

EN

E-004633/2025

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.1.2026)

Maritime security in the Caribbean is crucial for regional stability. The EU encourages constructive dialogue towards de-escalation of tensions and shares the priority of combatting drug-trafficking and organised crime. The EU approach combines operational actions based on evidence, stronger legislation and international cooperation to disrupt criminal organisations. The EU is committed to working with partners in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), as well as with the United States, to counter transnational organised crime and drug trafficking through law enforcement and judicial cooperation, in full respect of international law and the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

The need for international cooperation, mutual respect and full compliance with international law in combating transnational organised crime and drug trafficking, as well as the importance of maritime security and regional stability, was reaffirmed in the Joint Declaration of the 4th CELAC-EU Summit (9 November 2025)¹, hosted by Colombia's President and co-chaired by the President of the European Council. The High Representative/Vice President represented the Commission at the Summit. The Summit reaffirmed the strategic importance of a bi-regional relationship with LAC.

The EU remains committed to strengthening bilateral relations with Colombia, through the negotiation of a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement. The EU will continue to support Colombia in the pursuit of shared priorities, including via the Global Gateway initiative² and through shared actions in areas such as fight against organised crime, protection of the environment and construction of peace.

¹ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15125-2025-INIT/en/pdf>.

² https://commission.europa.eu/topics/international-partnerships/global-gateway_en.