

(English version)

Question for written answer E-004652/25

to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Per Clausen (The Left), Leoluca Orlando (Verts/ALE), Andreas Schieder (S&D), Leila Chaibi (The Left), Hanna Gedin (The Left), Danilo Della Valle (The Left), Kathleen Funchion (The Left), Thijs Reuten (S&D), Merja Kyllönen (The Left), Li Andersson (The Left), Jussi Saramo (The Left), Günther Sidl (S&D), Elisabeth Grossmann (S&D), Matjaž Nemec (S&D), Rudi Kennes (The Left), Lynn Boylan (The Left), Sebastian Everding (The Left), Martin Schirdewan (The Left), Özlem Demirel (The Left), Damien Carême (The Left), Anthony Smith (The Left), Manon Aubry (The Left), Emma Fourreau (The Left), Benedetta Scuderi (Verts/ALE), Mimmo Lucano (The Left), Ilaria Salis (The Left), Pernando Barrena Arza (The Left), Isabel Serra Sánchez (The Left), Diana Riba i Giner (Verts/ALE), Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE), Marco Tarquinio (S&D)
(21 November 2025)

Subject: EU action following the laying down of arms of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)

When the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) announced earlier this year that it was laying down its arms in pursuit of a peaceful struggle, the European External Action Service welcomed the message ⁽¹⁾. However, to facilitate reconciliation and a peaceful resolution, the EU can do more. As an example, in 2017, when the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC), laid down its arms the European Council removed them from its list of terrorist organisations.

This raises the issue of whether or not this process should be echoed in relation to the PKK today.

The Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) is therefore kindly asked to answer the following questions:

1. Whether and when will the VP/HR bring a proposal to the European Council to follow the precedence from the 2017 laying down of arms of the FARC and, consequently begin the process of removing the PKK from the EU's terrorist list?
2. What else does the European External Action Service intend to do in order to directly support an inclusive peace process in Türkiye?

Submitted: 21.11.2025

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(15 January 2026)

The EU welcomes the positive developments in the dissolution and disarmament process of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). A credible and inclusive peace process, based on dialogue and reconciliation, respecting fundamental rights and the rule of law, would be a constructive step to achieve a peaceful and sustainable political solution to the Kurdish question, and would contribute to stability in the region.

Common Position 2001/931/CFSP ⁽¹⁾ (CP931) provides for the application of specific measures to combat terrorism. PKK has been listed under CP931 since 2002. The listing is reviewed every 6 months, in accordance with Article 1(6) of CP931, and was last maintained on 29 July 2025 ⁽²⁾.

Pursuant to the relevant case law ⁽³⁾, the Council may maintain a person, group or entity on the list if it concludes that there is an ongoing risk of them being involved in terrorist acts. Should the Council be satisfied that that risk no longer exists, it may decide, by unanimity, to remove them from the list.

The EU remains committed to supporting a lasting and inclusive peace process and follows the developments on the ground through the EU Delegation to Türkiye.

The EU also supports dialogue and peacebuilding activities through the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, hosting political leaders, civil society, and women's organisations to strengthen local ownership and foster cross-party cooperation; through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance as well as through the human rights and democracy thematic programme of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument — Global Europe, that aim to strengthen rule of law, fundamental rights and democracy, thus contributing to create a conducive environment for minority rights in Türkiye.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/node/3264_en.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/compos/2001/931/oj/eng>.

⁽³⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2025/1577 of 29 July 2025, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/1577/oj/eng>.

⁽⁴⁾ Judgment of 26 July 2017, *Council of the European Union v Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam*, C 599/14 P, EU:C:2017:583, paragraph 51.