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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.4.2026)

The EU shares NATO's assessment that Russia constitutes a primary direct threat to Euro-Atlantic security, particularly along the eastern borders, but also more widely as it engages in hybrid activities in other regions, and resorts to cyber threats, foreign information manipulation and interference and disinformation. The EU will continue working on its broader defence efforts to strengthen the security of its Member States, in cooperation and full complementarity with NATO.

The EU remains steadfast in its commitment to protecting the security and safety of its Member States and citizens. In recent years, the EU has taken unprecedented steps to counter hybrid threats and to reinforce its resilience, preparedness and defence readiness, including on its eastern flank. For instance, the Eastern Flank Watch, one of the flagship proposals in the Defence Readiness Roadmap¹, aims to enhance situational awareness and enable the EU to respond to emerging threats more quickly and effectively.

¹ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/readiness-roadmap-2030_en.