

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000985/26
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(10 March 2026)**

Subject: Preparation of the Iran war

I would like to ask the Commission for information on all contacts with EU and third countries relating to the war against Iran and on exchanges between Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas on the matter. Please list all official and informal contacts since 20 January 2025, including meetings, phone calls, online meetings, correspondence and other communication. Please indicate the members of the Commission and third countries involved, as well as the subject matter.

Submitted: 10.3.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(18 May 2026)**

The President of the European Council, the President of the Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President (HR/VP), have been in continuous contact with partners in the Middle East and other relevant interlocutors to coordinate the EU's response.

These engagements were also used to express solidarity with the countries affected by Iran's attacks, urge de-escalation, call for all parties to comply with international humanitarian law, protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, and call on Iran to end destabilising activities in the region and ensure freedom of navigation and safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz ⁽¹⁾. This diplomatic outreach included a high number of phone calls with a broad range of interlocutors.

The Commission applies strict transparency rules concerning interest representation and publishes information on meetings held with interest representatives on the dedicated transparency webpages of the Members of the College ⁽²⁾. Information on such contacts may also be made available through other channels, including press releases and social media.

However, as set out in Article 4(2) of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 ⁽³⁾ and Article 3(b) of Commission Decision (EU) 2024/3081 ⁽⁴⁾, these rules do not cover meetings held with representatives of public authorities of the Member States or representatives of public authorities of third countries, including their diplomatic missions and embassies, or intergovernmental organisations. There is therefore no obligation to publish meetings held with such representatives.

As regards exchanges within the Commission, it should be recalled that, pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, discussions in the meetings of the Commission are confidential ⁽⁵⁾.

⁽¹⁾ At leadership level, that included — but is not limited to:

- The videoconference co-hosted by the Presidents of the European Council and the Commission with leaders from across the Middle East and neighbours (Jordan, Egypt, the Gulf states, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Türkiye and Armenia) on 9 March 2026;
- President of the European Council visit to United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Qatar on 14 and 15 April 2026. Ministerial and other engagements included — but are not limited to:
- EU and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Ministers of Foreign Affairs convened together for a videoconference on 5 March 2026 that resulted in a joint statement: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/03/05/joint-statement-by-gcc-eu-ministers-meeting-on-recent-developments-in-the-middle-east-iran-s-attacks-against-gcc-states/>; The HR/VP travelled to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on 8 and 9 April 2026; the EU Special Representative for the Gulf visited all six GCC countries in March 2026.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/about/organisation/president/transparency_en and https://commission.europa.eu/about/organisation/college-commissioners/kaja-kallas_en#transparency.

⁽³⁾ Interinstitutional Agreement of 20 May 2021 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on a mandatory transparency register, OJ L 207, 11.6.2021: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinsttit/2021/611/oj.

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Decision (EU) 2024/3081 of 4 December 2024 on transparency measures concerning meetings held between Members of the Commission and interest representatives, and repealing Decision 2014/839/EU, Euratom, C/2024/11500, OJ L, 2024/3081, 5.12.2024: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/3081/oj>.

⁽⁵⁾ Article 14 of Commission Decision (EU) 2024/3080 of 4 December 2024 establishing the Rules of Procedure of the Commission and amending Decision C(2000) 3614, C/2024/10000, OJ L, 2024/3080, 5.12.2024: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/3080/oj>.