

EN

E-000995/2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.5.2026)

1. The presence of the United Kingdom (UK) Sovereign Base Areas (SBAs) in Cyprus is a matter for Cyprus.
2. The EU Treaties do not apply to the UK SBAs as these areas are the territory of the UK, except a limited application by virtue of Protocol No 3¹ and of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement², notably the Protocol relating to the SBAs of the UK in Cyprus.
3. The European Council of 19 March 2026 acknowledged the intention of Cyprus to initiate a discussion with the UK on the UK bases in Cyprus and expressed readiness to provide assistance as needed.

The EU has a strategic interest in a stable and secure Eastern Mediterranean.

¹ Protocol No 3 on the Sovereign Base Areas of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Cyprus annexed to the Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded, Official Journal L 236, 23/09/2003 P. 0940 - 944.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:12020W/TXT>.