

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001782/26  
to the Commission  
Loucas Fourlas (PPE)  
(30 April 2026)**

*Subject:* Need for an effective European response to the new faits accomplis attempted by the occupying ‘authorities’ on the territory of the Republic of Cyprus

The recent tensions witnessed in Pyla have raised serious questions about the effectiveness of the European Union. On 15 April 2026, Turkish forces violated the status quo within the buffer zone, challenging both the mandate of the UNFICYP and fundamental principles of international law. When members of the United Nations attempted to prevent ‘police officers’ of the pseudostate from illegally entering the buffer zone, the latter called for reinforcements, including tanks, triggering tensions in the region.

In addition to condemnation, this development calls for decisive and meaningful EU action against the new faits accomplis being attempted on the ground.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. How does it intend to respond to these violations, bearing in mind that the Republic of Cyprus is an EU Member State?
2. What concrete steps will it take to ensure respect for the sovereignty of a Member State?
3. Does it consider the EU’s current stance towards Türkiye to be sufficient or does it intend to review it in the light of the ongoing provocations?

Submitted: 30.4.2026

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

The Commission is aware of the matter raised by the Honourable Members of the European Parliament.

The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) is the authority mandated to operate in the buffer zone. On 13 April 2026, the Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General reiterated that unauthorised entry, presence or activity within the buffer zone constitutes a violation of UNFICYP’s mandate and underlined that respect for UNFICYP’s mandate is essential to maintaining stability in this sensitive area <sup>(1)</sup>.

The EU has a strategic interest in a secure and stable environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and remains committed to defending its interests and those of its Member States as well as to upholding regional stability.

A comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue would significantly contribute to sustainable stability and security in the Eastern Mediterranean.

In this context, the EU remains fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue, within the UN framework, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded and the *acquis*.

Unequivocal commitment to international agreements and the UN Charter, as well as abstaining from unilateral actions that violate international law and the sovereign rights of Member States, remains essential to ensure the development of a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the EU and Türkiye.

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<sup>(1)</sup> <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/highlight/2026-04-13.html>.