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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.7.2026)

The Commission is closely following media reports and statements referring to preparations to submit draft legislation on maritime jurisdiction areas to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

The content of this legislation has not been made public. The Commission does not comment on media reports.

The EU has repeatedly made clear that Türkiye is expected to make an unequivocal commitment to good neighbourly relations, international agreements and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The EU remains committed to defending its interests and those of its Member States as well as to upholding regional stability. In this context, the EU attaches the greatest importance to safeguarding the sovereign rights of all Member States, in full respect of international law including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Abstaining from unilateral actions that violate international law and the sovereign rights of Member States is essential to ensure a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is also essential for developing a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the EU and Türkiye.

The High Representative/Vice-President raised these issues during her visit to Ankara on 30 June 2026, in the meetings both with the President of the Republic of Türkiye and the Foreign Minister. In the joint press release issued after the visit, it is highlighted that both EU and Türkiye agreed on the importance of regional stability and good neighbourly relations¹.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/joint-press-release-t%C3%BCrkiyes-fm-hakan-fidan-hrvp-kaja-kallas-and-eu-commissioners-marta-kos-and_en).