

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003301/26
to the Commission
Geadis Geadı (ECR)
(20 August 2026)**

Subject: From ‘calm waters’ to new storms after Türkiye declares marine parks, violating the Law of the Sea

The publication in the Turkish Government Gazette of presidential decrees with which Ankara proceeded to declare marine parks in two areas, in the North Aegean, between Lemnos and Samothrace, and in the Eastern Mediterranean, where Kastellorizo is cut off from Rhodes, demonstrates the escalation of Türkiye’s revisionist agenda.

In the North Aegean, Türkiye is essentially reinstating its position on determining the median line on the basis of the mainland coasts, ignoring the influence of the Greek islands. Correspondingly, in the Eastern Mediterranean it is isolating Kastellorizo from the rest of the Greek island area, restricting its influence on the demarcation of maritime zones.

In view of the above:

1. How will the Commission react if Türkiye imposes restrictions on fishing, research or shipping within these areas, in violation of the International Law of the Sea?
2. How does the Commission intend to prevent the enactment of the ‘Blue Homeland’ legislation, discussion of which in the Turkish parliament is, according to Turkish media, imminent in October?
3. Does the Commission intend to review its policy towards Türkiye to date, recognising that this has not prevented — but conversely encouraged — the escalation of its revisionist claims?

Submitted: 20.8.2026

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

The European External Action Service and the Commission are closely monitoring developments in the Aegean Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean.

The EU has consistently underlined that the sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction of all Member States must be respected, in full respect of international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos).

The EU has repeatedly called on Türkiye to act with restraint, refrain from any unilateral action liable to increase tensions, and to commit itself unequivocally to good neighbourly relations, international agreements and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The delimitation of maritime zones should be addressed through dialogue and good faith negotiations, having recourse, if necessary, to dispute settlement mechanisms available under international law.

The EU will continue to raise matters of concern in the appropriate political and diplomatic channels and to defend the interests of the EU and its Member States.

In April 2024 the European Council tasked the Committee of Permanent Representatives to advance work on the recommendations of the Joint Communication of the Commission and High Representative/Vice-President on the state of play of EU-Türkiye political, economic and trade relations ⁽¹⁾.

Türkiye’s own constructive engagement will be instrumental in advancing the various areas of cooperation identified in the Joint Communication.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_6157.