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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(14.8.2025)

In June 2025, the European Council<sup>1</sup> addressed the worrying situation in Libya, and its possible consequences in terms of European security, as well as migratory flows. It also reaffirmed the EU's steadfast support for Libya and the United Nations (UN) Support Mission in Libya in advancing national reconciliation, institutional unity, and a transparent, inclusive dialogue anchored in Libyan ownership and consensus.

The European Council recalled that the Türkiye-Libya Memorandum of Understanding on the delimitation of maritime jurisdictions in the Mediterranean Sea infringes upon the sovereign rights of third States, does not comply with the Law of the Sea and cannot produce any legal consequences for third states.

In its 2024 Enlargement report<sup>2</sup>, the Commission noted that 'Türkiye's lack of cooperation continued to hamper EU's efforts to implement the UN embargo on Libya effectively'. EU's efforts to implement the UN embargo on Libya continued to be challenged by Türkiye's obstructive attitude towards Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI<sup>3</sup>, openly questioning its purpose, legitimacy and impartiality.

The November 2023 Joint Communication<sup>4</sup> indicates that Türkiye must avoid threats and actions that damage good neighbourly relations and respect the sovereignty of all Member States over their territorial sea and airspace as well as all their sovereign rights, including *inter alia* the right to explore and exploit natural resources in accordance with EU and international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)<sup>5</sup>.

The EU remains committed to defend its interests and those of its Member States as well as to uphold regional stability.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/cjtb3oep/20250626-european-council-conclusions-en.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/2024-communication-eu-enlargement-policy\\_en](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/2024-communication-eu-enlargement-policy_en).

<sup>3</sup> European Union Naval Force IRINI, <https://www.operationirini.eu/>.

<sup>4</sup> [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/joint-communication-european-council-state-play-eu-turkiye-political-economic-and-trade-relations-0\\_en](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/joint-communication-european-council-state-play-eu-turkiye-political-economic-and-trade-relations-0_en).

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention\\_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos\\_e.pdf](https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf).