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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.1.2026)

Full respect of international law, including the United Nations Charter and the fundamental principles of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states is at the core of EU's approach.

In the past, the EU has not been shying away from condemning escalation in the Eastern Mediterranean, including flights over Greek inhabited areas¹.

With regard to the current situation, as underlined in the recent enlargement package, no flights of Turkish military jet over Greek inhabited areas have been reported since February 2023. At the same time, while there were several months of near-zero incidents of violations of Greek airspace, subsequently violations of traffic regulations were reported².

As a candidate country, Türkiye is expected to make an unequivocal commitment to good neighbourly relations, international agreements and the peaceful settlement of disputes having recourse, if necessary, to the International Court of Justice. All members of the international community must abide by these principles and should refrain from any actions undermining regional stability and security. In this context, 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.

Abstaining from unilateral actions, which run counter to EU interests remains an essential requirement to ensure a stable and secure environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and the development of a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the EU and Türkiye.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/05/15/statement-of-the-eu-foreign-ministers-on-the-situation-in-the-eastern-mediterranean/>.

² https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/4bb4ddd1-4f20-4ee0-92db-926996ec8dd1_en?filename=t%C3%BCrkiye-report-2025.pdf.