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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.1.2026)

Maritime security in the Caribbean is crucial for stability in the Americas, and the European External Action Service (EEAS) has been closely monitoring the ongoing tensions, particularly around Venezuela. Following the events of 3 January 2026, the EU has continued to call for calm and restraint by all actors, to avoid anything that could further destabilise Venezuela, with potentially severe repercussions for the region.

The EU will continue to work with regional and international partners, including the US, to support a peaceful, negotiated, democratic transition in Venezuela. In this regard, regional fora have a key role to play in fostering stability, and the EU supports collaborative efforts to maintain security in full respect of international law and the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty enshrined in the UN Charter. This also applies to the fight against transnational organised crime, including drug trafficking, which is a shared priority for both the region and the EU.

The EU and partners in the region share an interest in safeguarding the conditions necessary for trade routes to operate at full capacity. The EEAS will continue monitoring the potential implications of the ongoing tensions in the Caribbean region for trade flows and supply chains.