

EN

E-004973/2020

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.11.2020)

Turkey is a participant to the United Nations (UN)-led Berlin Process for Libya and has committed to respect and enforce the UN arms embargo and to refrain from actions or initiatives fuelling the conflict in Libya. The High Representative/Vice-President continues to reach out to key players involved in the Libyan conflict, including Turkey, to promote a constructive engagement in the spirit of the Berlin Process.

Operation Irini is contributing to the implementation of the UN arms embargo, operating within the framework of existing UN Security Council resolutions. The September 2020 Foreign Affairs Council¹ agreed on new listings² under the Libya sanctions regime³, including against three entities - private operators - involved in violating the UN arms embargo. One of the entities operates from Turkey. On 14 October 2020, an additional individual was listed under the same sanctions regime due to his involvement in multiple and repeated breaches of the arms embargo⁴. These listings are a clear signal of the EU's strong determination to respond to and deter international humanitarian law and international human rights violations in Libya, and to ensure that the UN arms embargo on Libya is respected.

The control on the export and transit of arms by EU Member States is subject to national legislation, the Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP⁵ and to the Arms Trade Treaty⁶. The Turkish state and private businesses are major customers of component suppliers in civil and military aviation. Unless specific legislation prohibits it, Airbus can fulfil commercial contracts concluded with clients, including Turkish ones.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/09/21/>

² [Council Implementing Decision \(CFSP\) 2020/1310](#) of 21 September 2020 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya.

³ [Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2015/1333](#) of 31 July 2015 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya, and repealing Decision 2011/137/CFSP, and [Council Regulation \(EU\) 2016/44 of 18 January 2016](#) concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya and repealing Regulation (EU) No 204/2011.

⁴ [Council Implementing Decision \(CFSP\) 2020/1483](#) of 14 October 2020 implementing Decision (CFSP) 2015/1333 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32008E0944>

⁶ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/arms-trade-treaty-2/>