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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(4.5.2021)

In previous annual reports on Turkey<sup>1</sup>, the Commission has noted that statements by Turkish senior officials casting doubts on the Treaty of Lausanne have caused public controversy in the past.

Turkey as a candidate country should unequivocally commit to good neighbourly relations, international agreements and to the peaceful settlement of disputes, and avoid threats and actions that damage good neighbourly relations.

The situation of the Greek minority in Turkey has been under our constant scrutiny, especially in the context of the annually published Enlargement Package, where it is stated that the rights of persons belonging to minorities need better protection, as full respect for and protection of language, religion, culture and fundamental rights in accordance with European standards have yet to be fully achieved and hate speech remains a matter of serious concern<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-turkey-report.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/turkey\\_report\\_2020.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/turkey_report_2020.pdf) and [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/default/files/20201006-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/default/files/20201006-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy_en.pdf)