The EU is aware of recent developments in Varosha, which are another step in the wrong direction.

The EU has strongly condemned Turkey’s unilateral steps as well as the announcements made in July 2021 by the Turkish President and the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community on the further reopening of Varosha. The EU has called for the immediate reversal of these actions and the reversal of all steps taken on Varosha since October 2020.

The EU continues to be guided by the relevant United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolutions with respect to Varosha, in particular Resolution 550 (1984) and Resolution 789 (1992), which consider attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as inadmissible, and which call for the transfer of that area to the administration of the UN. No actions should be carried out in relation to Varosha that are not in accordance with these resolutions.

The EU remains fully committed to a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem on the basis of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation with political equality, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and in line with the EU acquis and the principles on which the EU is founded. The best way forward to resolve the Cyprus issue is through a resumption of formal negotiations on a comprehensive settlement. It is imperative for Turkey to contribute in concrete terms and undertake responsible actions with a view to creating a conducive environment for negotiations.