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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.4.2021)

The Commission does not comment on issues relating to criminal cases of espionage and on those aspects pertaining to Member States' national security, which according to Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union is the sole responsibility of each Member State.

In its annual report on EU enlargement policy, the Commission noted that Turkey has continued to move further away from the EU. The underlying facts, leading to this assessment, still hold¹.

During its recent meetings, the European Council discussed EU-Turkey relations comprehensively and concluded that the EU has a strategic interest in the development of a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship with Turkey. At the same time, the European Council underlined that the EU remains committed to defending its interests and those of its Member States.

¹https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/default/files/20201006-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy_en.pdf