

## ADDENDUM

### Turkey's Provocations in Eastern Mediterranean and broader region since January 2020

- Late January: Turkey facilitated the transport of Syrian mercenaries it supports back to Libya, contravening earlier promises not to do so. A sign of Turkey's desire to extend its hegemony in the region through violence and provocation, French President Emmanuel Macron stated his "concerns with regard to the behavior of Turkey at the moment" and sent warships to support Greece as a response.
- February and March: the Turkish government facilitated a migrant invasion of Greece, which threatened the integrity of Greece & Europe. The EU backed Greece, with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen declaring that Greece was Europe's "shield." On March 7th, DAS Matthew Palmer visited Alexandroupoli, where he declared that Turkey's facilitation of illegal migration through Greece was "unsustainable, unacceptable" and "fundamentally destabilizing" to Europe.
- April 19 and 20: Turkey sent the Yavuz, a Turkish energy research vessel, to Blocks 6 and 7 of Cyprus' Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The government of Cyprus highlighted the illegality of such an action, citing the 2003 EEZ Delimitation Agreement between the Republic of Cyprus and Egypt. The French and Israeli governments, as well as the EU, condemned this action. Ambassador Judith Gail Garber, Ambassador of the United States to Cyprus, condemned the Yavuz's activities as a "provocative step."
- June 5: Turkey's Erdogan instructs his aides to conduct a study on converting the Hagia Sophia into a mosque.
- June 9: Turkey announced its intention to engage in exploratory drilling, starting in September 2020, from the north of Rhodes all the way to the southeast of Crete in 24 plots, with the Turkish government publishing a map outlining these plots in a government gazette.
- June 11: A Turkish warship prevented the EU's new naval mission enforcing the Libya arms embargo from checking a suspect freighter off the war-torn country's coast.
- June 11: Turkish courts sentenced Metin Topuz, a worker at the United States Embassy in Ankara, to over eight years in prison on charges of aiding terrorism. U.S. officials have said that such charges lack credibility, and Secretary of State Pompeo stated that he was "deeply troubled" by the conviction.
- June 12: Cyprus' permanent representative to the UN Andreas Mavroyiannis has sent a letter to UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres denouncing Turkey's actions in the island's EEZ.
- June 16: The Greek government announced a multi-pronged strategy in the event Turkey carries out its threats to drill in the "24 plots," between Rhodes and Crete.