

**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**BY THE DEFENCE POLICY DIRECTORS OF:**  
**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTRY FOR THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS OF THE**  
**FRENCH REPUBLIC**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC**  
  
**CONCERNING**  
**THE QUADRIPARTITE INITIATIVE (QUAD)**

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We, the Defence Policy Directors (or their representatives) of Cyprus, France, Greece, and Italy, convened in Athens on November 5th, 2024;

Aiming to demonstrate the collective commitment of the four countries to international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the freedom of navigation, and the regional stability in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea;

Concerned about the evolving security landscape in the Eastern Mediterranean;

Committed to addressing common threats, improving the interoperability and cooperation between the Armed Forces of the four allied countries, as well as strengthening our joint naval and air presence in the area of the Eastern Mediterranean;

Recognizing that effective defence capabilities are essential for safeguarding our national interests and ensuring regional stability;

Recognizing the exercise "EUNOMIA" as well as the QUAD Initiative as its fundamental operational pillar, conducive in:

- contributing to the common security in the region and maintaining peace and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean;

- demonstrating the collective and strong commitment of our four countries to respect and implement the UNCLOS, which reflects customary international law;
- ensuring readiness to address unforeseen events or incidents swiftly and responsibly;

Considering the effectiveness of the QUAD Initiative, which in the last years has successfully contributed to the integration and interoperability of our Armed Forces in the Eastern Mediterranean area;

Being confident that the Initiative can further evolve to achieve tangible objectives consistent with the current geostrategic situation of the region;

Led by the determination to further strengthen our cooperation;

Express the will to enhance our cooperation further, developing initiatives aimed at improving the QUAD Initiative's effectiveness and visibility through:

- emphasizing diplomacy as a primary tool for conflict resolution;
- developing mechanisms for constant information sharing about national and multilateral efforts in response to crises affecting the region;
- initiating joint training programs focused on non-combatant evacuation operations (NEO), maritime security, and cyber defence intending to build trust and interoperability among our forces;
- seeking joint capability solutions to address renewed geostrategic needs;
- supporting initiatives aimed at resolving conflicts peacefully within the region;
- convening annual meetings to review progress on our cooperative initiatives;
- assessing emerging challenges and adapting our strategies accordingly.

We express our unwavering determination to work as partners committed to promoting peace, security, and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean.

This Joint Statement serves as a comprehensive framework for our ongoing cooperation and reflects our shared values of solidarity and mutual respect. We look forward to implementing this declaration effectively and fostering a lasting partnership among the four countries.