

JOINT STATEMENT

BY THE DEFENCE POLICY DIRECTORS OF:

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

ANNUAL QUAD DEFENCE POLICY DIRECTORS' MEETING

Building upon the foundations established in previous years and reaffirming our unwavering commitment to the principles stemming from international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), we, the Defence Policy Directors (or their representatives) of Cyprus, France, Greece, and Italy, reconvened in the spirit of continued cooperation,

to advance our shared vision for security and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Since the inception of the Quadripartite Initiative (QUAD), our nations have demonstrated unity and resolve in addressing the evolving security challenges of the region. The progress achieved through joint exercises, such as "EUNOMIA," and the deepening of operational cooperation have strengthened our collective ability to safeguard our shared interests and promote peace.

In light of the dynamic geostrategic environment, we recognise the necessity of further enhancing our interoperability and readiness. We therefore resolve to:

- Expand the scope of joint training activities, with a particular focus on emerging domains such as cyber defence, hybrid threats, and maritime security;
- Refine mechanisms for coordinated crisis response, ensuring swift and effective action in the face of unforeseen developments;
- Foster innovation and the exchange of best practices to address new and complex security challenges;
- Reinforce our commitment to the peaceful resolution of disputes, upholding diplomacy as the cornerstone of our approach to regional stability;
- Maintain regular dialogue and annual reviews to assess progress, adapt strategies, and ensure the continued relevance of our cooperation.

We remain steadfast in our resolve to uphold international law, as well as in our support for the principle of freedom of navigation, recognising their significance for the

prosperity and security in the Eastern Mediterranean. Our partnership, grounded in solidarity and mutual respect, continues to serve as a model for constructive regional engagement.

Looking ahead, we are determined to further elevate the effectiveness and visibility of the QUAD Initiative, confident that our collaborative efforts will yield tangible benefits for our nations and the wider region.

This Joint Statement reflects our shared aspirations and our enduring commitment to work together in pursuit of peace, security, and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean.