



## POSITION PAPER

**Committee:** Disarmament and International Security Committee

**Country:** Turkey

**Agenda Item:** Addressing Threats to Merchant Shipping: The Rise of Weaponized Drones and Terrorism at Sea

### ***Introduction***

Turkey faces terrorism in maritime trade due to its geographical location. Turkey is a key location for both trade and maritime security due to its position as a landmass opening onto the Black Sea, the Aegean Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea, and because it possesses straits. Its key location means it is vulnerable to potential threats to maritime trade and is therefore at risk.

### ***National Efforts***

Turkey is known for its sovereignty over its waters and its possession of advanced technology armed unmanned naval vehicles.

Turkey has developed SIDA platforms through ASELSAN and Yonca-Onuk, which have the capability to detect and neutralize menace at sea. These represent a technological attempt in terms of defense.

In addition, Turkey has made efforts to enhance maritime safety through its laws and regulations. The Turkish Straits Maritime Traffic Regulation was updated in 2022. This update prioritizes the safety of commercial vessels passing through the Straits, aiming to reduce the risk of attacks.

### ***International Cooperation***

Launched by Turkey in 2004, the Black Sea Harmony Operation aims to ensure maritime security against threats such as terrorism and smuggling at sea. In this regional initiative, Turkey has cooperated with NATO and Black Sea countries

### **Conclusion**

Turkey is ready for any kind of work with its advanced technology and ability to cooperate.

### **Sources**

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