



2026/768

30.3.2026

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2026/768

of 24 March 2026

on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2025/2012 (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/2/2026)

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 38 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/472 of 31 March 2020 on a European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 8(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 31 March 2020, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2020/472, which established and launched a European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI).
- (2) Pursuant to Article 8(2) of Decision (CFSP) 2020/472, the Council authorised the Political and Security Committee (PSC) to take decisions on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for EUNAVFOR MED IRINI (the 'EU Force Commander').
- (3) On 30 September 2025, the PSC adopted Decision (CFSP) 2025/2012 ⁽²⁾ appointing Commodore Spyridon POLLATOS as EU Force Commander as from 3 October 2025.
- (4) On 3 February 2026, the Italian Military authorities proposed the appointment of Captain Andrea BIELLI to succeed Commodore Spyridon POLLATOS as EU Force Commander (the 'proposed appointment') from 1 April 2026. The Italian Military authorities indicated that Captain Andrea BIELLI would be promoted to Rear Admiral upon his appointment as EU Force Commander.
- (5) On 10 February 2026, the EU Operation Commander of EUNAVFOR MED IRINI supported the proposed appointment.
- (6) On 17 February 2026, the EU Military Committee supported the proposed appointment and agreed that Captain Andrea BIELLI be appointed as EU Force Commander from 1 April 2026.
- (7) A decision on the appointment of Captain Andrea BIELLI as EU Force Commander should be taken.
- (8) Decision (CFSP) 2025/2012 should be repealed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Rear Admiral Andrea BIELLI is appointed as EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) from 1 April 2026.

Article 2

Decision (CFSP) 2025/2012 is hereby repealed.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 101, 1.4.2020, p. 4, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2020/472/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2025/2012 of 30 September 2025 on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2025/626 (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/4/2025) (OJ L, 2025/2012, 2.10.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/2012/oj>).

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on 1 April 2026.

Done at Brussels, 24 March 2026.

For the Political and Security Committee

The Chairperson

L. MANDEL VENSILD
