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## **EU UNLIKELY TO SEND BLACK SEA NAVAL MISSION TO REPEL RUSSIAN DRONE ATTACKS ON UKRAINIAN GRAIN SHIPS, DESPITE KALLAS' SUPPORT**

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EU Obserevr (20 October 2026)

Andrew RETTMAN

The EUs top diplomat has backed the idea of a Black Sea naval mission to protect grain ships from Russian drones □ but this would require a much bigger effort than Brussels existing Red Sea operation, while air policing might be more effective.

The EU should send a mission to the Black Sea, said EU foreign affairs chief Kaja Kallas in the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Tuesday (20 October).

To protect merchant shipping, not to escalate, not to scare anyone, but to make sure that we will supply safely fuel, merchandise at normal prices, anything we need. This is how it should be, she said.

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