



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 31 March 2023
(OR. en)

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CSDP/PSDC 233
CFSP/PESC 469
EUMC 142
MAMA 44
RELEX 365
CONUN 83
CSC 146
EUNAVFOR MED 10
PSC DEC 13
JAI 330

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681 (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/1/2023)

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2023/...

of ...

**on the appointment of the EU Force Commander
for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI)
and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681
(EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/1/2023)**

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,

¹ OJ L 101, 1.4.2020, p. 4.

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 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.
- (3) On 27 September 2022, the PSC adopted Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681¹ appointing Rear Admiral Stylianos DIMOPOULOS as EU Force Commander for EUNAVFOR MED IRINI from 1 October 2022.
- (4) On 24 February 2023, the Italian military authorities proposed the appointment of Rear Admiral (Navy) Valentino RINALDI to succeed Rear Admiral Stylianos DIMOPOULOS as the EU Force Commander of EUNAVFOR MED IRINI from 1 April 2023. The EU Operation Commander supported that proposed appointment.
- (5) On 3 March 2023, the EU Military Committee supported the recommendation made by the Italian military authorities.

¹ Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681 of 27 September 2022 on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2022/513 (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/4/2022) (OJ L 252, 30.9.2022, p.74).

- (6) A decision on the appointment of Rear Admiral Valentino RINALDI should be taken.
- (7) Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681 should be repealed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Rear Admiral Valentino RINALDI is hereby appointed as EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI).

Article 2

Decision (CFSP) 2022/1681 (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI/4/2022) is hereby repealed.

Article 3

This Decision shall apply from 1 April 2023.

Done at ...,

*For the Political and Security Committee
The Chairperson*