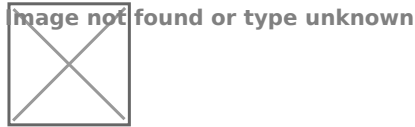


## **Greek Alternate Foreign Minister noted that initially the reactions at a European level were particularly moderate regarding the conversion of Hagia Sophia**



“The message from all European capitals was that any deterioration in Greek-Turkish relations, through the performance by Turkey of abusive actions against the sovereign rights of Greece, will have consequences for Ankara’s relationship with Europe,” Alternate Foreign Minister Miltiadis Varvitsiotis stressed on Wednesday in an interview with SKAI TV.

“Just because a move was made does not mean that all the problems have been solved. There is no room for complacency,” Varvitsiotis added. He also pointed out that Greece has only ever accepted a single difference with Turkey and that was the difference over the continental shelf.

On the issue of the conversion of Hagia Sophia into a mosque, he noted that initially the reactions at a European level were particularly moderate and then added: “The image, however, from Istanbul on the day of the first prayer provoked a storm of reactions, sending the message that this was a step back for Turkey in relation to the European acquis and that it was slipping onto an Islamic path, far from democratic values.

---

[Source](#)