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Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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We follow the developments and the escalating tensions in the Sea of Azov and Kerch Strait. In this context, we are concerned about reports that shots were fired at Ukrainian vessels which caused injury of some personnel.

As a littoral state of the Black Sea, we emphasize that freedom of passage at the Kerch Strait should not be hindered. We urge all parties to refrain from steps endangering regional peace and stability, to respect international law and to act in common sense and restraint to avoid increasing the tensions.