Climate Watch (Serial No.: 20251229-52)

Initial/Updated/Final

Topic: **temperature** and **precipitation**
Organization issuing the statement: SEEVCCC

Issued/ Amended / Cancelled: 29-12-2025 16:00

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Valid from – to: 29-12-2025 – 31-3-2026 Next amendment: 5-1-2026

Region of concern: **Balkans, Romania, Ukraine, Cyprus, Turkey, South Caucasus and Middle East**

„ Within the first week (29 December 2025 to 4 January 2026), ECMWF monthly forecast predicts below normal mean weekly air temperature in the eastern Balkans, Romania, Ukraine and Cyprus, with anomaly up to –3°C, as well as in South Caucasus and Middle East, with anomaly around –3°C, and in Turkey, with anomaly up to –10°C in central parts. Probability for exceeding lower tercile is up to 90% in southern Carpathian Mountains, southeastern Ukraine, Turkey and South Caucasus. Precipitation surplus is expected in central and eastern Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Middle East, with around 90% probability for exceeding upper tercile.
During the second week (5 to 11 January 2026), below normal mean weekly air temperature is predicted for southeastern Turkey and parts of Armenia, with anomaly around –6°C, with up to 90% probability for exceeding lower tercile. Precipitation surplus is expected along the coasts of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, and their hinterland, with up to 80% probability for exceeding upper tercile. “

Monitoring

During the period from 21 to 27 December 2025, observed weekly precipitation sums were up to 150 mm in the southwestern Balkans, up to 100 mm southwestern Turkey, around 50 mm in northern Turkey and around 25 mm in the northwestern and eastern Balkans, southeastern Turkey and western Georgia. In rest of the SEE region, precipitation sums were below 25 mm.

Outlook

Within the first week (29 December 2025 to 4 January 2026), ECMWF monthly forecast predicts below normal mean weekly air temperature in the eastern Balkans, Romania, Ukraine and Cyprus, with anomaly up to –3°C, as well as in South Caucasus and Middle East, with anomaly around –3°C, and in Turkey, with anomaly up to –10°C in central parts. Probability for exceeding lower tercile (lower third of the lowest temperature) is up to 90% in southern Carpathian Mountains, southeastern Ukraine, Turkey and South Caucasus. Precipitation surplus is expected in central and eastern Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Middle East, with around 90% probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest precipitation).

During the second week (5 to 11 January 2026), below normal mean weekly air temperature is predicted for southeastern Turkey and parts of Armenia, with anomaly around –6°C, with up to 90% probability for exceeding lower tercile (lower third of the lowest temperature). Precipitation surplus is expected along the coasts of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, and their hinterland, with up to 80% probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest precipitation).

During the following three months (January, February and March 2026), seasonal forecast predicts above average seasonal air temperature with the probability for exceeding the upper tercile ranging from 50% in Romania, Moldova, South Caucasus and the western and northern Balkans to over 70% in Cyprus and most of Greece. Precipitation surplus is expected across east Mediterranean Sea, South Caucasus, northern Turkey and eastern Ukraine, with up to 60% probability for exceeding the upper tercile. Precipitation deficit is predicted for most of the Balkans, with up to 60% probability for exceeding lower tercile.

Update

An updated statement will be issued on 5-1-2026

For further information, please contact cws-seevccc@hidmet.gov.rs

ANNEX

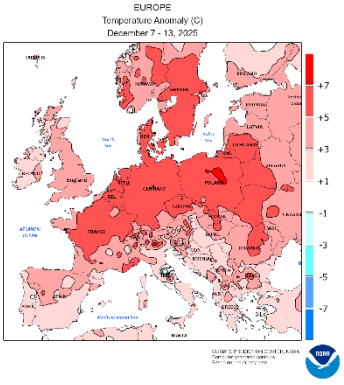
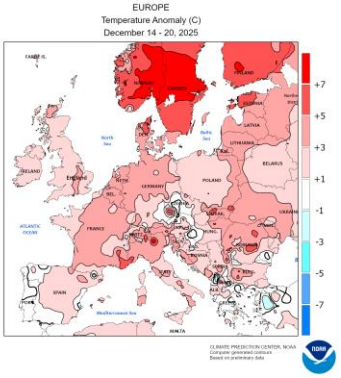
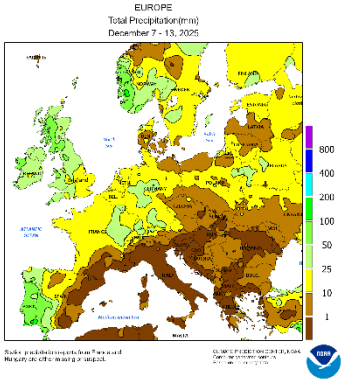
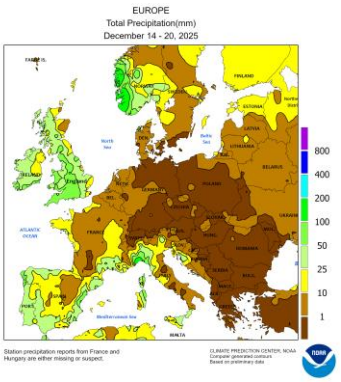
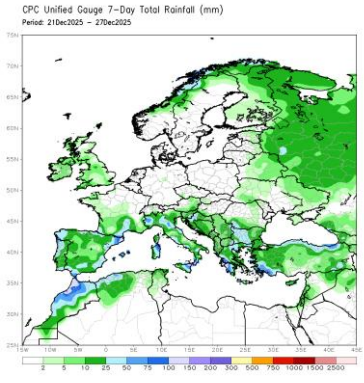
7.12-13.12.2025	14.12-20.12.2025	21.12-27.12.2025
		-
		

Figure 1. Temperature anomaly and total precipitation for recent weeks (source: Climate Prediction Center, USA)

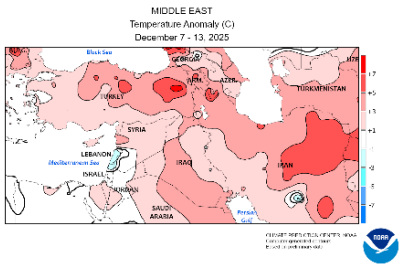
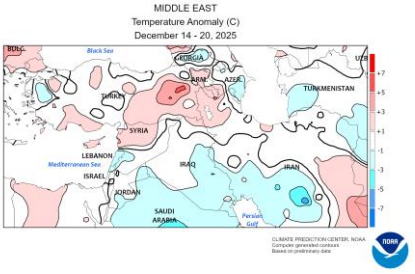
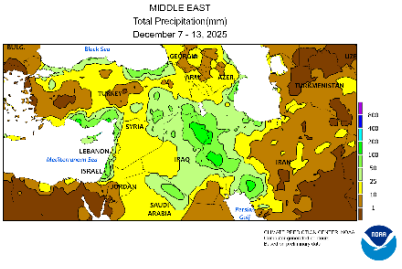
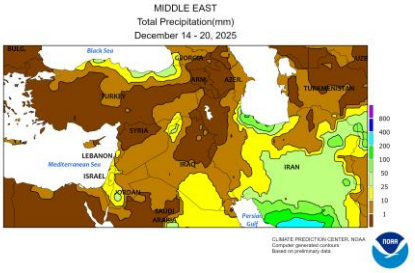
7.12-13.12.2025	14.12-20.12.2025	-
		-
		-

Figure 2. Temperature anomaly and total precipitation for recent weeks for Middle East (source: Climate Prediction Center)

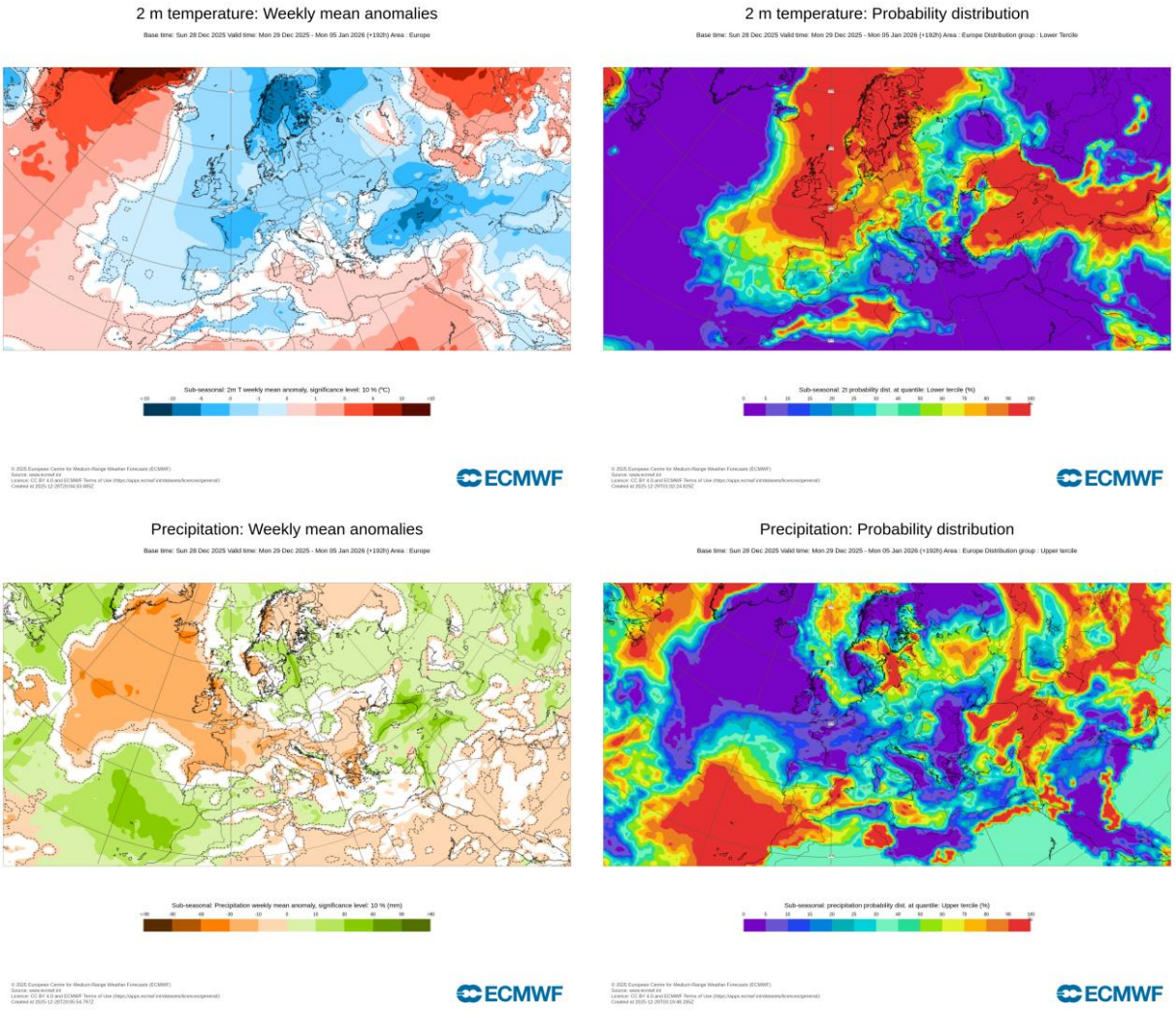


Figure 3. Outlook for the temperature anomalies and probability for the lower tercile (upper row), along with the precipitation surplus/deficit and probability for the upper tercile (lower row) for the 29.12.2025–4.1.2026 period (source: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, ECMWF)

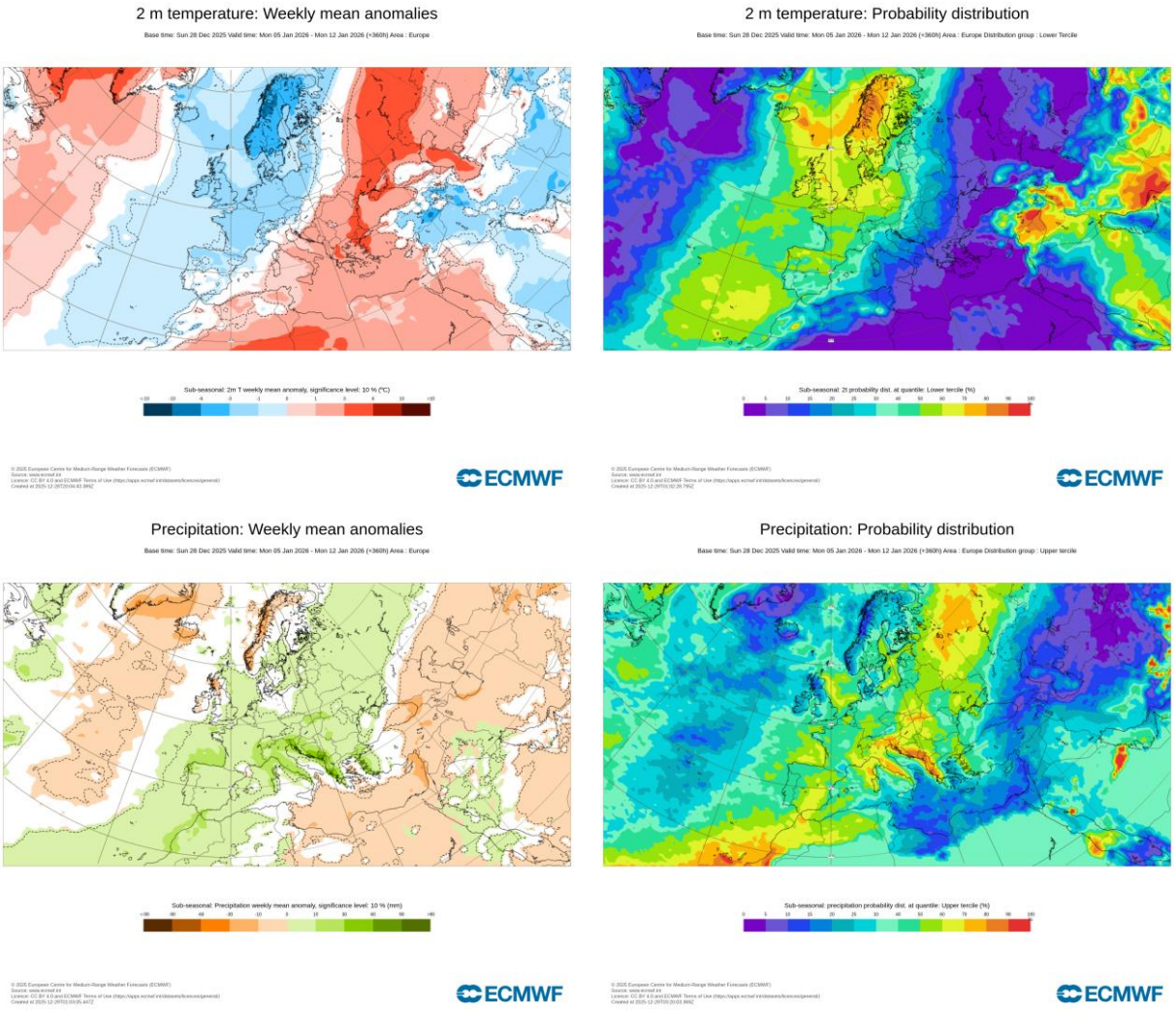
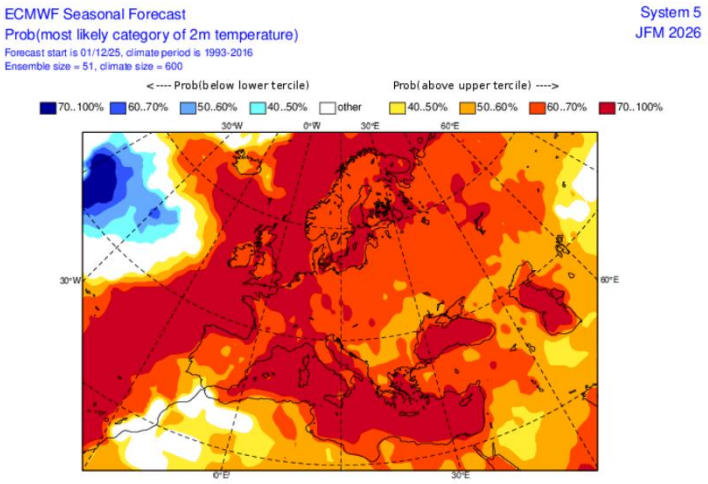


Figure 4. Outlook for the temperature anomalies and probability for the lower tercile (upper row), along with the precipitation surplus/deficit and probability for the upper tercile (lower row) for the 5.1-11.1.2026 period (source: ECMWF)



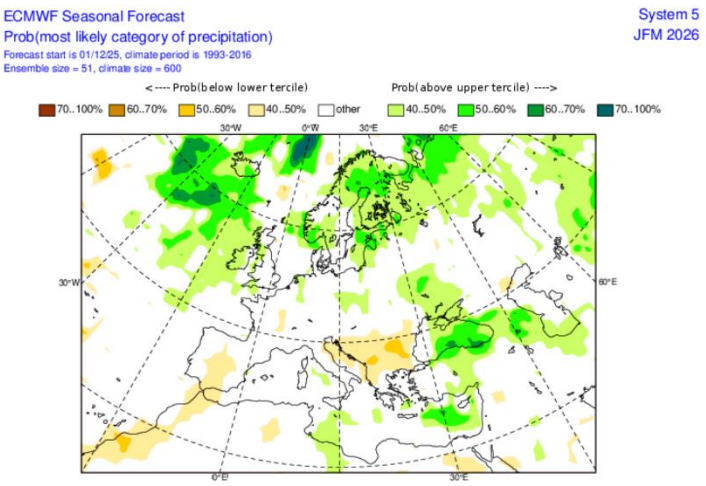
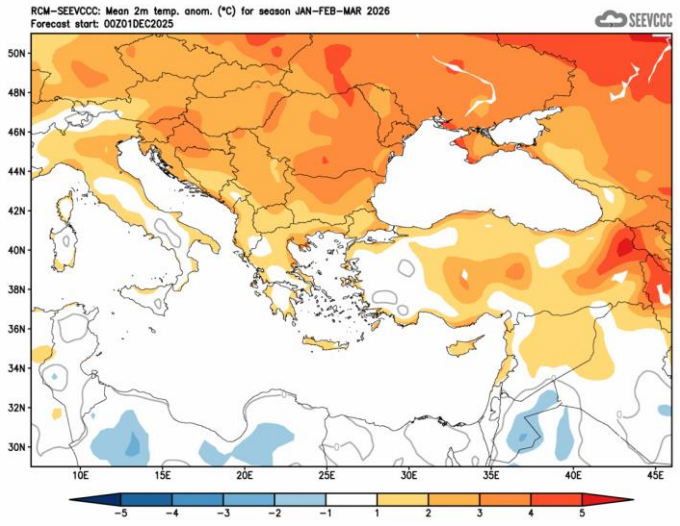


Figure 5. Mean seasonal air temperature and precipitation anomaly probabilities for the season JFM (source: ECMWF)



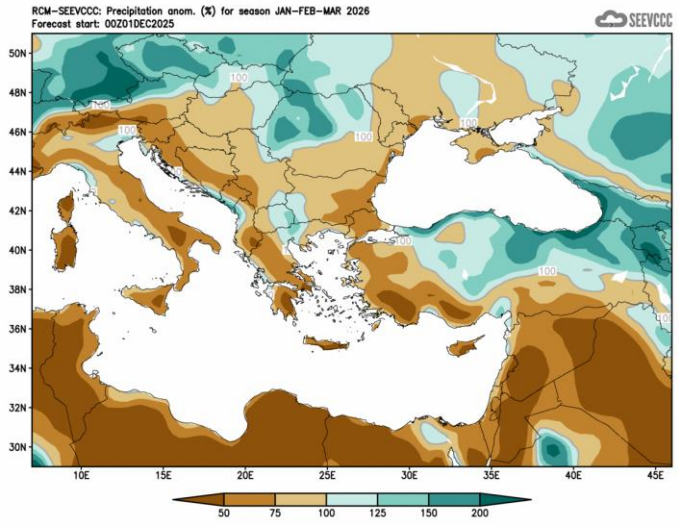


Figure 6. Mean seasonal temperature and precipitation anomaly for the season JFM (seasonal outlook from RCM – SEEVCCC)

Sources

- Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (www.hidmet.gov.rs)
- South East European Virtual Climate Change Center (www.seevccc.rs)
- European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (http://www.ecmwf.int/)
- Climate Prediction Center USA (http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)
- Deutscher Wetterdienst (http://www.dwd.de)