

Climate Watch (Serial No.: 20260518-20)

Initial/Updated/Final

Topic: **temperature and precipitation**

Organization issuing
the statement: SEEVCCC

Issued/ Amended / 18-5-2026 16:00
Cancelled

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Valid from – to: 18-5-2026 – 31-8-2026 Next amendment: 25-5-2026

Region of concern: **Turkey, Cyprus, Balkans, South Caucasus, Ukraine, Moldova, Romania**

„ Within the first week (18 to 24 May 2026), ECMWF monthly forecast predicts below normal mean weekly air temperature, with anomaly up to -6 °C in southern Turkey and Cyprus, while temperature anomaly up to -3 °C is predicted in rest of Turkey, South Caucasus, the southern, and parts of northern and eastern Balkans. Probability for exceeding lower tercile (lower third of the lowest temperature) is over 90% in most parts except in the northern and eastern Balkans where probability around 60% is expected. Precipitation surplus is expected in Turkey, Cyprus, the southern Balkans, western Romania, Moldova, southern and part of western Ukraine, with around 90% probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest precipitation). Precipitation deficit is predicted for eastern Romania and the western Balkans, with around 80% probability for exceeding lower tercile (bottom third of the lowest precipitation). “

Monitoring

During the period from 10 to 16 May 2026, observed weekly precipitation sums were up to 150 mm in part of eastern Romania and western Slovenia, up to 100 mm in the western Balkans and most of Montenegro, around 50 mm in parts of central and eastern Turkey, western Georgia, central Ukraine and most of Romania. In rest of the SEECOF region, weekly precipitation totals were below 25 mm.

Outlook

Within the first week (18 to 24 May 2026), ECMWF monthly forecast predicts below normal mean weekly air temperature, with anomaly up to -6 °C in southern Turkey and Cyprus, while temperature anomaly up to -3 °C is predicted in rest of Turkey, South Caucasus, the southern, and parts of northern and eastern Balkans. Probability for exceeding lower tercile (lower third of the lowest temperature) is over 90% in most parts except in the northern and eastern Balkans where probability around 60% is expected. Above normal mean weekly air temperature, with anomaly up to +3 °C, is forecasted for most of Ukraine, northern Moldova and northernmost part of Romania. In part of northern Ukraine temperature anomaly is up to +6 °C. Probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest temperature) is around 80% in most parts, and over 90% in northern and central Ukraine. Precipitation surplus is expected in Turkey, Cyprus, the southern Balkans, western Romania, Moldova, southern and part of western Ukraine, with around 90% probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest precipitation). Precipitation deficit is predicted for eastern Romania and the western Balkans, with around 80% probability for exceeding lower tercile (bottom third of the lowest precipitation).

During the second week (25 to 31 May 2026), above normal mean weekly air temperature, with anomaly up to +3 °C, is predicted for western Ukraine, western Romania and the western Balkans. Probability for exceeding upper tercile (top third of the highest temperature) is around 60%. Below normal mean weekly air temperature, with anomaly up to -3 °C, is forecasted for Cyprus, Turkey, South Caucasus and Middle East. Probability for exceeding lower tercile (lower third of the lowest temperature) is around 70% in most parts. Precipitation surplus is expected in Cyprus, Azerbaijan, southwestern and part of central Turkey, with up to 70% probability for exceeding upper tercile (upper third of the highest precipitation).

During the following three months (June, July and August 2026), seasonal forecast predicts above average seasonal air temperature in almost the entire SEE region, except eastern Romania, Moldova, southern and eastern Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and some parts of Middle East, with the probability for exceeding the upper tercile ranging from 50% up to 70%. Precipitation surplus is expected in some parts of eastern Ukraine, while deficit is forecasted for Pannonian plain, northern, central and eastern Balkans, northern Turkey and Georgia, with up to 50% probability for exceeding the upper/lower tercile.

Update

An updated statement will be issued on 25-5-2026

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

ANNEX

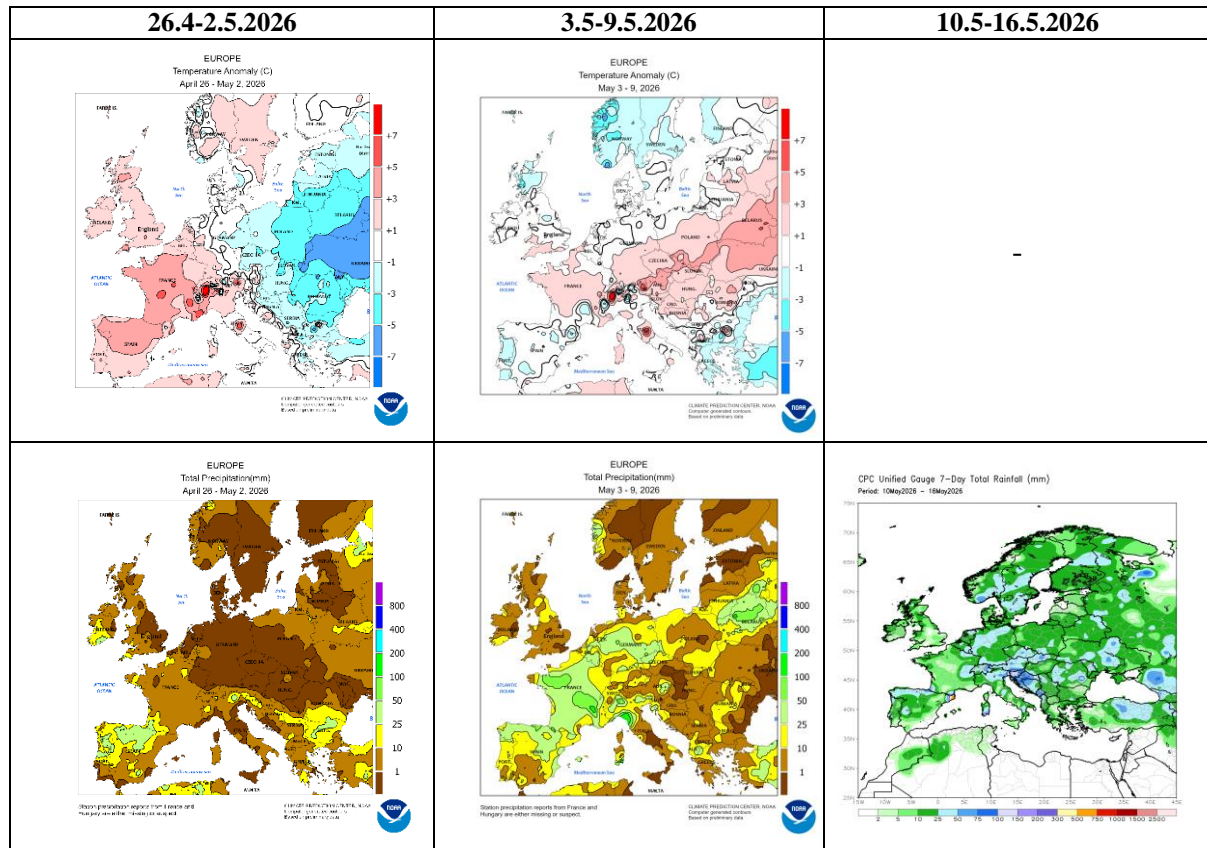


Figure 1. Temperature anomaly and total precipitation for recent weeks (source: Climate Prediction Center, USA)

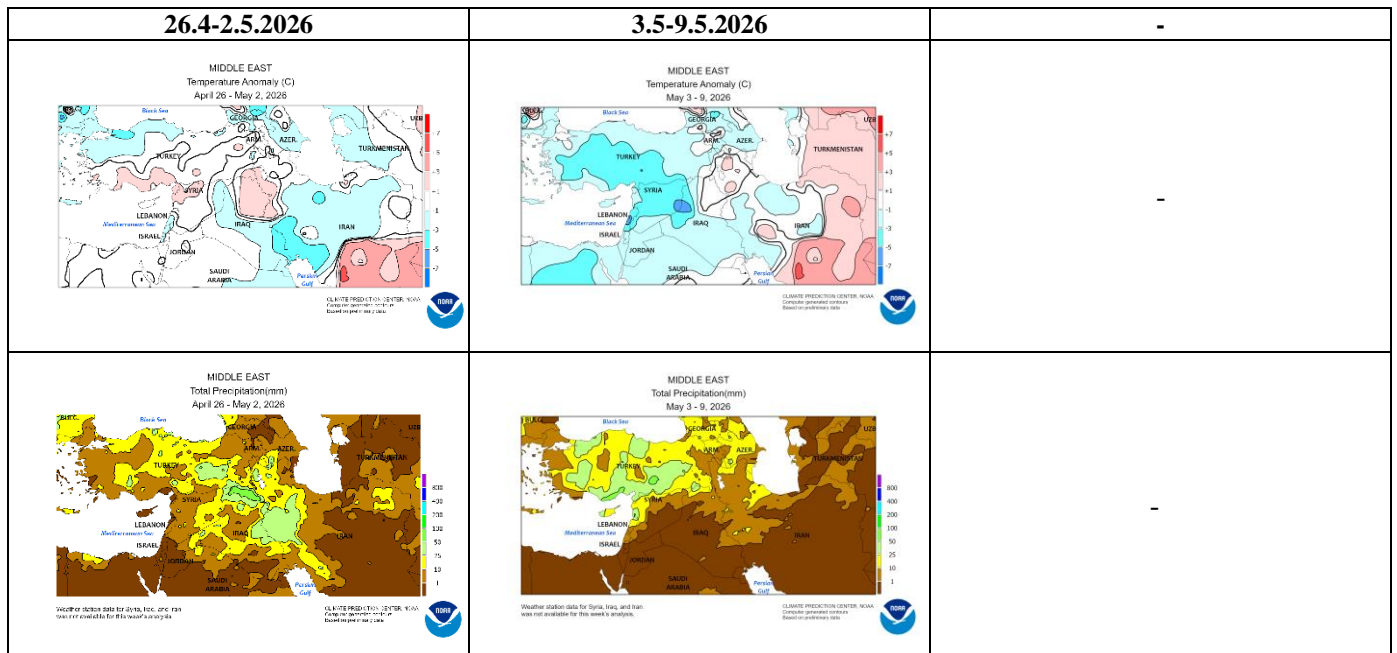


Figure 2. Temperature anomaly and total precipitation for recent weeks for Middle East (source: Climate Prediction Center)

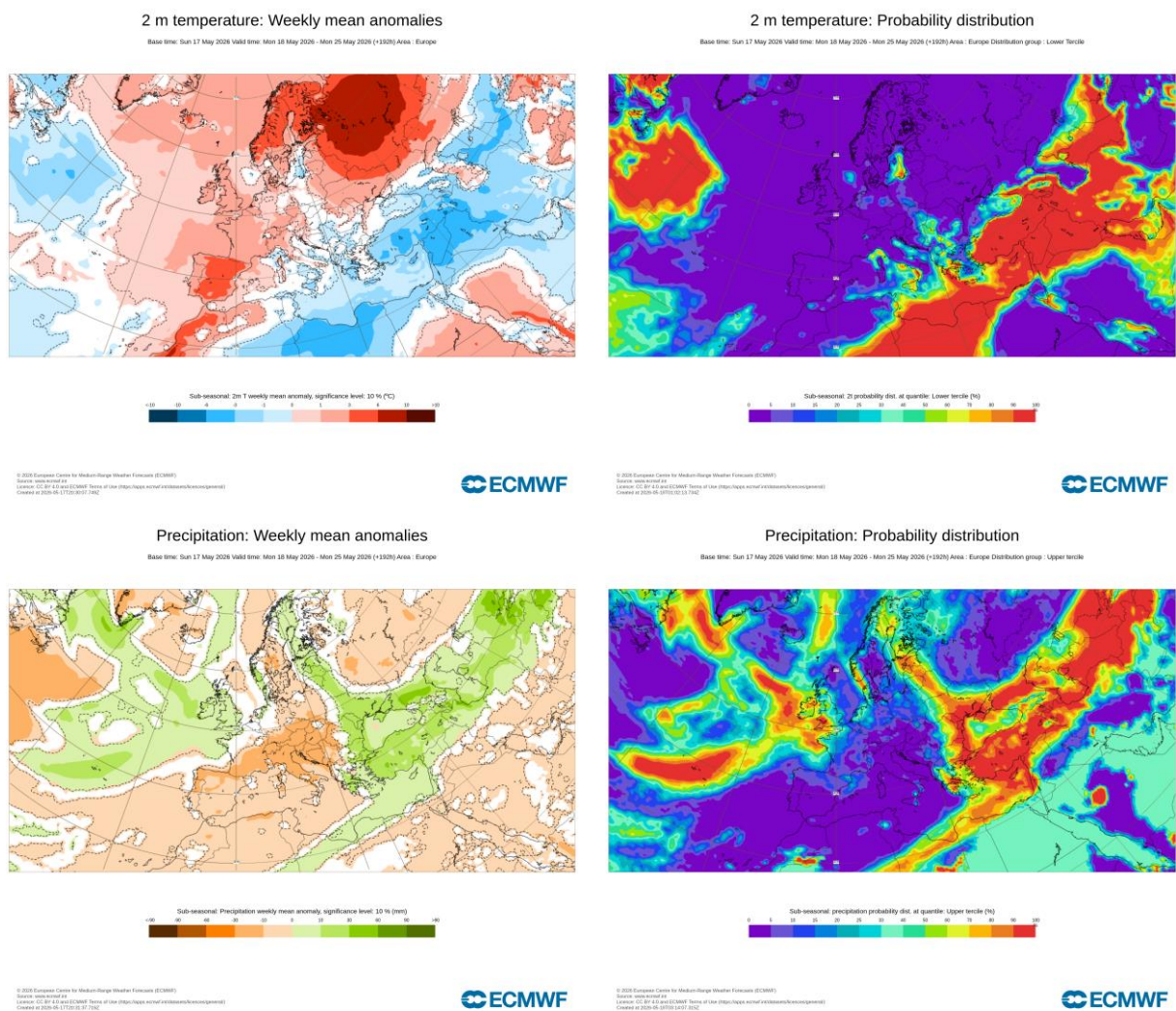


Figure 3. Outlook for the temperature anomalies and probability for the lower tercile (upper row), along with the precipitation surplus/deficit and probability for the upper tercile (lower row) for the 18.5-24.5.2026 period (source: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, ECMWF)

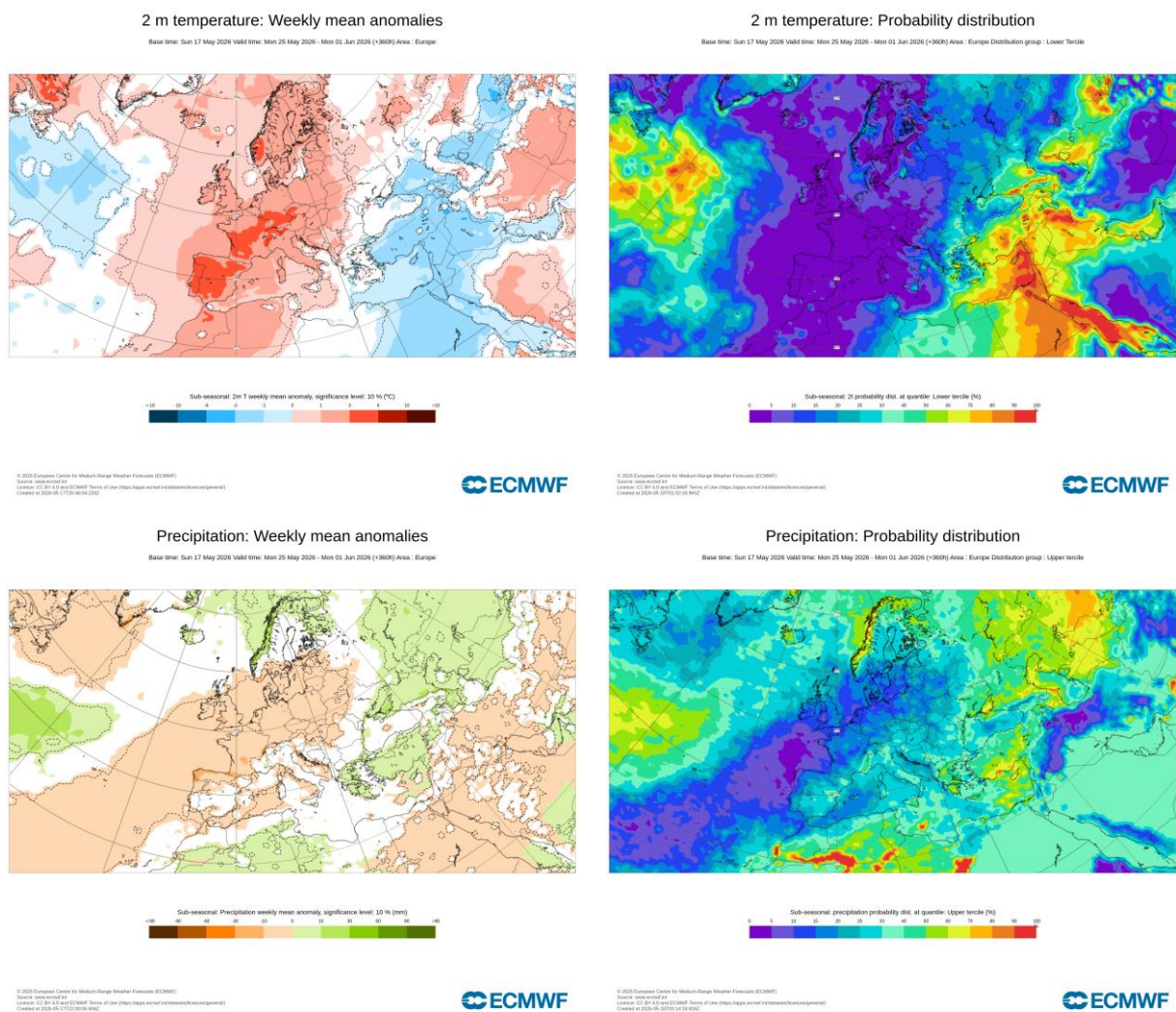


Figure 4. Outlook for the temperature anomalies and probability for the lower tercile (upper row), along with the precipitation surplus/deficit and probability for the upper tercile (lower row) for the 25.5-31.5.2026 period (source: ECMWF)

ECMWF Seasonal Forecast
 Prob(most likely category of 2m temperature)
 Forecast start is 01/05/26, climate period is 1993-2016
 Ensemble size = 51, climate size = 600

System 5
 JJA 2026

ECMWF Seasonal Forecast
 Prob(most likely category of precipitation)
 Forecast start is 01/05/26, climate period is 1993-2016
 Ensemble size = 51, climate size = 600

System 5
 JJA 2026

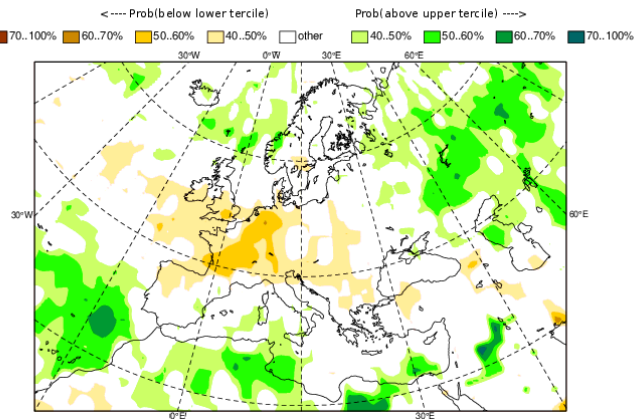
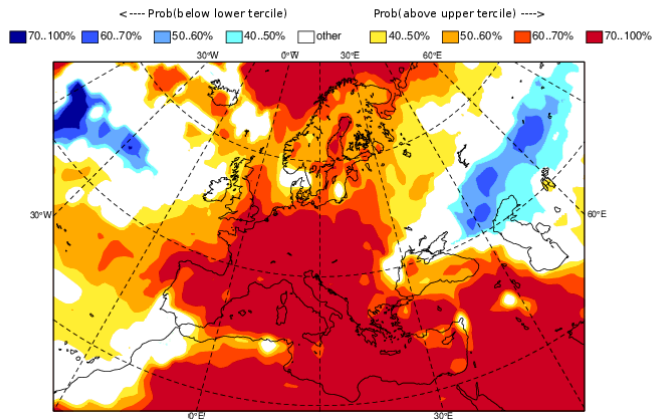


Figure 5. Mean seasonal air temperature and precipitation anomaly probabilities for the season JJA (source: ECMWF)

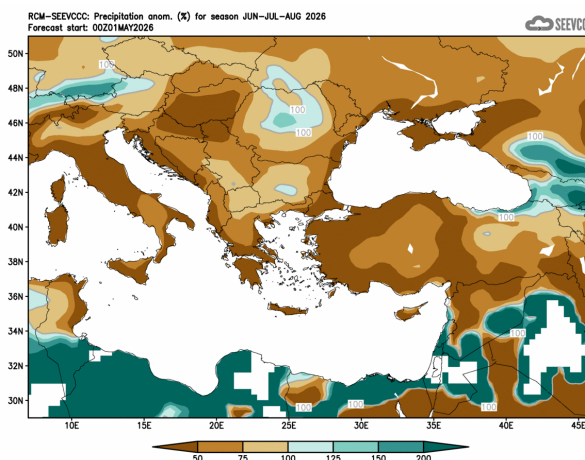
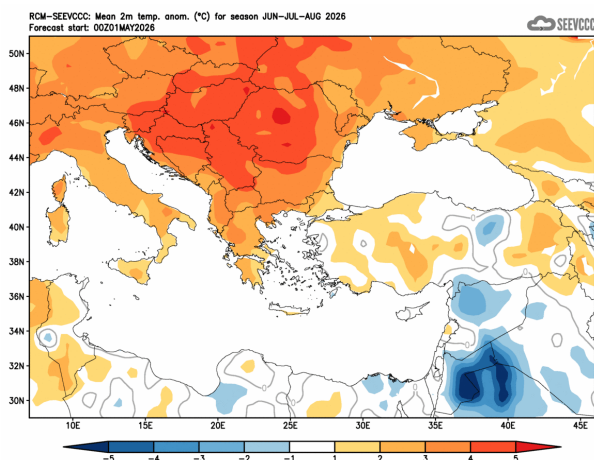


Figure 6. Mean seasonal temperature and precipitation anomaly for the season JJA (seasonal outlook from RCM – SEEVCCC)

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>)