

Question for written answer E-006185/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
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Subject: VP/HR - Sanctions against Israel

EU Member States are currently preparing to impose sanctions against Russia, even before investigations into the shooting down of the Malaysian Airlines flight have established who was responsible.

However, we already know that Israeli aircraft and artillery have been bombing civilian targets and taking civilian lives, and that Israel has been carrying out extrajudicial executions. We therefore have good grounds to suspect that war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed.

What sanctions have been imposed on Israel?

Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement states that relations between the two parties are founded on the respect for human rights. Why is it that the European authorities are not only failing to impose their own standards, but are actually increasing the scope of cooperation?

In the past the EU has imposed specific sanctions, suspended agreements and refused to broaden cooperation with various countries for various reasons. Can the Commission tell us whether there is a single set of standards or benchmarks applied in such cases, or whether each third country is assessed against a different set of standards? Can it tell us if this set of standards is in the public domain?