Question for written answer E-007293/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130

Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL) and Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Eviction of the Bedouin community in the West Bank to make way for new

colonist settlements

The Israeli Government has given the go-ahead for a number of schemes (the 'Nuweimeh and E-1 plans') to relocate the Bedouin community living on the outskirts of Jericho, Ramallah and Jerusalem. This has met with opposition from the 12 000 residents concerned – most of whom are refugees – and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. The eviction is planned for Area C – occupied by Israel under the Oslo II Agreement – with the aim of building new settlements for colonists.

The destruction of real and personal property, and the eviction and expatriation of the Bedouin residents of Bethlehem are banned under Articles 49 and 53 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and represent an affront to their rights as refugees. Furthermore, many organisations have condemned the fact that these colonist settlement policies restrict the right to free movement enshrined in Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by erecting walls tens of kilometres long that the Palestinians have to skirt around every day.

- 1. Is the High Representative aware of this situation? What is her position on this blatant violation of international law?
- 2. Is the EU considering reviewing its association agreement with Israel if it is established that there has been a breach of Article 2 on respect for human rights?

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