

**Question for written answer E-007360/2014**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL) and Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Refusal of entry to a Parliament delegation on a fact-finding mission to the Gaza Strip

On 3 and 7 September an accredited delegation of MEPs went to Palestine on a fact-finding mission in order to assess the damage caused during the latest Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip, as well as to visit members of the Palestinian Legislative Council and authorities and members of civil society in Israel and the Palestinian territories. On 4 September, however, in spite of the fact that the delegation had obtained prior authorisation, the Israeli Government refused to let the MEPs into Gaza, claiming that their mission was intended for a purpose other than delivering humanitarian aid.

By denying entry to a delegation of MEPs, democratically elected political representatives, and by doing so after what amounted to a war, in which more than 2 500 people were killed and tens of thousands were wounded, Israel has breached the international agreements governing the observation of conflict situations.

1. Has the High Representative asked the Israeli Government for an explanation?
2. Regarding the EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy, to what extent will the European External Action Service implement its aims as far as Israel is concerned?
3. Will the Commission impose sanctions on Israel and, in particular, suspend the association agreement by invoking Article 2, which requires both parties to respect human rights?