Question for written answer E-000333/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons in 2015

The Palestinian Prisoners' Study Centre has revealed its calculations of the total number of persons detained by Israel in 2014. According to that organisation, quoted by the Ma'an agency, 7110 Palestinians were imprisoned last year, an increase of 80% compared with 2013. The Study Centre also estimates that the number of prisoners held in Israeli prisons is currently 6800, compared with around 5000 at the end of 2013.

An increase has also been recorded in the number of children detained: 57% in 2014 according to the same source, which also points out a 250% rise in the total number of detainees not formally charged over the same period.

These figures reveal the escalation of Israeli oppression against Palestine and its people and are indissociable from the well-known, systematic violations of human rights that are being perpetrated by Israel.

In view of the above, we would like information on the following:

- 1. What is the Commission's assessment of these figures and, in the face of this knowledge, what steps has it taken or is it planning to take with the Israeli government?
- 2. What conclusions does it draw from this concerning the future of relations between the EU and Israel and, more specifically, the future of the Association Agreement?

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