

**Question for written answer E-003758/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Nessa Childers (S&D)

Subject: EU-US trade negotiations and preferential treatment of goods from Israeli settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

Given that under the United States-Israel Free Trade Agreement the US grants preferential treatment to products originating from settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), and that the judgment of the Court of Justice in Case C-386/08 ruled that products originating from the West Bank do not fall within the territorial scope of the European Community-Israel agreement and do not therefore qualify for preferential treatment under that agreement, could the Commission disclose whether it has discussed, with the US Trade Representative or other US authorities, the introduction of a bipartisan Congressional Bill with a view to promoting trade and commercial enhancement between the US and Israel, and for other purposes, to be enacted as the 'United States-Israel Trade and Commercial Enhancement Act'?

Can the Commission assure the EU Member States' competent authorities that they will maintain their ability to enforce the applicable provisions of international law and European jurisprudence on products originating from illegal settlements in occupied territories, irrespective of the outcome of trade talks under its mandate?