

**Question for written answer E-006552/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)

Subject: VP/HR -Imprisonment of Palestinians

Backed by the EU, USA and NATO, Israel is escalating its war against the doubly imprisoned Palestinian people on all levels. Bombings and mass murder of civilians are being combined with escalating oppression and persecution:

- 6 500 Palestinian political prisoners are currently being held in Israeli prisons.
- Another 23 000 people have been arrested and held on remand since 2000.
- 209 prisoners have died as a result of being tortured to death, executed or denied the necessary medical care.
- Over 10 000 young people have been arrested since 2000, of whom 300 are still being held.
- 30 prisoners have now been incarcerated for over 20 years.
- Since 1967, 850 000 people or one-quarter of the Palestinian population, have been imprisoned.
- Bombings, oppression, settlements, the wall in the occupied territories, denial of access for Palestinians to basic services and work illustrate the barbarism of the Israeli state and its supporters (EU, USA and NATO) and the responsibilities of the governments which maintain and renew economic, political and military relations with Israel, such as the Greek SYRIZA/ANEL coalition government.

The Greek Communist Party is in favour of the immediate release of Palestinian prisoners and immediate recognition of the Palestinian State as a full member of the UN.

In view of the above, will the High Representative say:

- What is her position on the escalation in Israeli suppression of the Palestinian people?
- With the situation as it stands, does the EU support her hypocritical calls for peace in this region?