

**Question for written answer E-007987/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Relations between the European Union and the new Israeli government

The new Israeli government, which many Palestinian observers have described as a 'government of war and against peace', has adopted the position of pursuing its settlement policy.

It is important to bear in mind that 60 % of the West Bank is already under Israeli military control, and yet the Israeli authorities want to extend their territory still further. Consequently, many more instances of demolition are planned on Palestinian territory in the West Bank after several construction permits were granted to settlers.

It is true that the European Union congratulated Benjamin Netanyahu on his victory but it has taken a stance against new construction in the West Bank. In effect, settlement there is a violation of international law and is an obstacle to the peace process.

1. What attitude does the European Union intend adopting on the settlement question in its dealings with the new government?
2. What initiatives does the Commission intend taking in order to reopen the peace dialogue as quickly as possible?