

Question for written answer E-007210/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Homes demolished in Area C (West Bank)

In a July 2016 report on demolitions in Area C of the West Bank, the Israeli human rights NGO B'Tselem revealed that 168 homes were torn down in the first six months of 2016 alone, compared to 125 in the whole of 2015. Excluding 2013, that figure is the highest for 10 years.

Palestinians and activists have condemned this Israeli policy, which they view as part of a strategy of expansion.

What is more, a representative of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has drawn attention to an environment of extreme coercion in this Israeli-controlled area of the West Bank, which is forcing Palestinians to leave.

This policy of forced transfers constitutes a serious breach of the Geneva conventions.

1. Has the VP/HR taken dissuasive action to stop Israel from demolishing homes and continuing its settlement policy? If so, exactly what did that action involve?
2. A number of EU-funded buildings have been destroyed. Is there a list of the buildings destroyed by Israel? What is the value of the buildings demolished?