

**Question for written answer E-009398/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Confidential European diplomacy report

A report by the Member States' Heads of Mission based in East Jerusalem was recently made public. This confidential report was written in December 2015 and later reported in the press after being leaked.

The report clearly points to the Israeli Government's illegal construction of settlements as the most serious obstacle to the peace process and implementation of UN resolutions to create a free and sovereign Palestinian State.

It condemns the Israeli army's disproportionate violence and highlights the profound despondency of the Palestinian population. The report gives a series of specific recommendations to improve measures against such settlements being built in occupied territories, in breach of international law. For example, extending the boycott of products from Israeli settlements and their banking activities with Member State financial institutions.

What is the High Representative's view on this report? Has it been discussed in the Council, and what are the resulting courses of action as far as EU foreign policy is concerned?