

Question for written answer E-006849/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
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Subject: VP/HR - Customs Controls on Israeli products from settlements in occupied Palestinian areas

According to the Interpretative Notice of 11 November 2015 on the indication of origin of goods from the occupied Palestinian territories¹, a differentiation of the origin of goods is mandatory.

To date, we do not know if the EU services have developed a specific administrative procedure for the non-application of the preferential agreement with the State of Israel in the event of non-compliance with the Interpretative Note.

In the absence of such an administrative procedure, the EU would not be distinguishing between goods produced in such settlements (which are illegal under international law) and other goods and therefore would not be excluding the former from the common customs area. Consequently, there would also be no customs revenue derived as a result of the exclusion of those products from the common customs area.

What decisions have been adopted by the EU to implement the Interpretative Note of 11 November 2015?

In the reply to written question E-000232/2016, it was stated that 'Israeli media have quoted that exports to the EU from Israeli settlements make up 1%-2% of EU-Israel trade'². Have your services been able to obtain more reliable data concerning these amounts?

¹ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/20151111_interpretative_notice_indication_of_origin_en.pdf.

² <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2016-000232&language=ES>.