Question for written answer E-002642/2018 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Palestine: March of Return

The EU has been Israel's main trading partner since 2000.

It has been actively engaged in the Middle East peace process since its inception in 1991.

In December 2017, US President Donald Trump decided to move the US embassy to Jerusalem, which has been seen as a major blow to the Oslo Peace Accords. The move has been rejected by the international community and has led to peaceful protests in the Palestinian territories. These protests have been met with violence and disproportionate force, which, on 14 May, resulted in the deaths of over 50 Palestinians in Gaza, with thousands more injured.

In view of Israel's violation of the Palestinians' human rights, its continuing failure to comply with UN resolutions and international law, which, among other things, establishes Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state, and its failure to comply with the Oslo Accords:

Will the EU maintain its preferential relations with Israel?

How long will the EU continue to put free trade and its partnership with Israel ahead of respect for international law and the human rights of Palestinians?

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