

**Question for written answer E-002787/2018**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Udo Voigt (NI)**

Subject: VP/HR - Possible use of special ammunition by the Israeli forces in the Gaza Strip

At the border fence in the Gaza Strip, Palestinians have been demonstrating in recent weeks for the right of return of the Palestinian population and have re-focused attention on the unsolved problem of the hundreds of thousands of displaced Palestinians. According to official figures, 37 people have so far lost their lives through acts of violence on the part of the Israeli security and military forces. In addition, about 5 000 people have been injured so far, some of them seriously.

The local NGO 'Doctors Without Borders' has, it says, treated more than 500 people with bullet wounds since 1 April. The organisation points to 'unusually severe injuries to the lower extremities'. Doctors report bullet wounds such as they have rarely seen before.

Even the EU has called on the Israeli government to use 'maximum restraint' and questioned the 'proportionality of the force used'.

- 1) What information does the VP / HR possess as to whether, and to what extent the Israeli armed forces may be using internationally outlawed special ammunition (e. g. Dumdum bullets) resulting in the unusual and often severe injuries to the lower extremities mentioned above?
- 2) Has the VP / HR protested to the Israeli government about the disproportionate use of force by the Israeli armed forces? If so, how? If not, why not?