

**Question for written answer E-002552/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Israeli flags banned at the stadium

Recently the Italian press has reported that at the Europa League qualifying match between Strasbourg and Maccabi Haifa on Thursday 25 July 2019, Israeli supporters were prevented from entering the French stadium with Israeli flags.

This restriction was apparently adopted in the wake of an order issued by the principal private secretary to the Prefect of Strasbourg, Dominique Schuffenker, on grounds of public policy in order to prevent any incidents between the two groups of supporters.

The measure, which was withdrawn just before the start of the match, after the intervention of the Israeli Ambassador to France, Aliza Bin-Noun, appears to be in breach of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU and discriminates against the Israeli team, highlighting inconsistencies in France's system of social integration. It is disappointing that in the European city of Strasbourg, seat of the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights and the European Parliament, these deeds are obscuring national and European models of freedom, integration and respect in sport.

Can the Commission therefore say:

- 1) whether it does not consider it advisable to consider taking action, within the framework of its powers, in order to prevent such incidents from happening again at any other sports event?