

**Question for written answer P-014466/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Closure of the Palestinian al-Hurriya radio station in Hebron (occupied West Bank)

The Palestinian journalists' union reports that the Israeli army has ransacked and closed down the Palestinian Manbar al-Hurriya radio station in Hebron, accusing it of provoking the current wave of violence that has hold of the city and the surrounding area. Al-Hurriya has already been closed down twice by the Israeli army since 2002.

The Palestinian journalists' union has accused Israel of attacking members of the press on Palestinian soil and has condemned a crime that it says reflects the barbarous and terrorist attitude of the occupying forces towards the Palestinian media.

With its large network of journalists, Al-Hurriya is able to report on attacks and release the names of Palestinians who have been killed, and is in a position to cover events as they happen. Like other Palestinian media outlets, the radio station has been able to report versions of events that contradict the official line given by the Israeli armed forces when reporting Palestinian deaths.

1. Will the VP/HR condemn the closure of this radio station which runs wholly counter to the right to freedom of expression of a people subjected to an occupation that is illegal under international law?
2. What steps will be taken to put a stop to Israeli acts of violence against the Palestinian people and the illegal occupation of the city of Hebron?
3. What is the position of the VP/HR on the freedom of the media and the protection of Palestinian journalists in those territories illegally occupied by Israel?