Question for written answer P-015774/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL) and Marina Albiol Guzmán (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Spanish citizen illegally prevented from leaving the Gaza Strip

Jaldía Abubakra Aueda is a Spanish citizen who has been trapped in the Gaza Strip since she arrived there on 18 August to visit relatives. She has tried several times to leave Gaza but the Israeli authorities have prevented her from doing so. The Spanish Consulate General in Jerusalem and the Palestinian Territories is being kept apprised of her situation but has not taken any action to help her return to her home in Madrid.

As the VP/HR will know, elections are being held in Spain on 20 December 2015 and Jaldía Abubakra is standing as a candidate in Madrid for election to the Senate. She is an EU citizen, and as such it is imperative that she not only receive suitable assistance to leave Gaza – as any citizen should and which she has repeatedly requested – but also that her political rights are guaranteed.

Is it not incumbent upon the EU authorities, who are fully cognisant of her case, to lend assistance to any citizen who is being illegally prevented from returning home? Does the Vice-President/High Representative know whether the EEAS plans to take any action to end this woman's long and illegal detention in Gaza?

1081896.EN PE 574.018