

**Question for written answer P-002234/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Media freedom and protecting Palestinian journalists in view of the closure of the Palestinian satellite TV Channel Filastin al-Yawm

In line with Israel's policy of media repression in the name of security, the Israeli army stormed the buildings of the TV Channel Filastin al-Yawm in the West Bank, arrested its manager and closed its offices.

The Union of Palestinian Journalists has reported that the Israeli army raided the headquarters of the private satellite broadcaster Trans-Media in the al-Tahouna district of the town of al-Bireh, seizing broadcasting equipment and arresting a cameraman and a technician.

Last month the Israeli army arrested Mujahid al-Saadi, one of the channel's correspondents, in Jenin in the north of the West Bank.

1. Will the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy condemn the Israeli Government's ill-treatment of the Palestinian media, the only means of expression open to a people which has been subject to an occupation that is illegal under international law?
2. What steps will she take to ensure media freedom and the protection of Palestinian journalists in the territories illegally occupied by Israel?