

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3392/01

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to the Commission

Subject: Obliteration of Israel

The website of the Palestinian National Authority's International Press Centre (http://www.ipc.gov.ps/ipc_a/ipc_a-1/a_map/palcit-e.html) contains a map showing Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt but not Israel. Instead, the territory enclosed within that country's current borders is labelled 'Palestine'. The map also fails to show entire cities, such as Tel Aviv.

In view of this example of virtual computer 'mystification', would the Commission answer the following questions?

1. Is it aware of the contents of this official website?
2. Does it not consider that the deletion of a country and its population from an official Palestinian National Authority document constitutes not only a worrying and dangerous attempt to undermine the Middle East peace process but also an official endorsement of the extreme terrorist views of those (Bin Laden included) who, in recent years, have worked – and continue to work – for the destruction of Israel and the triumph of fundamentalist pan-Arabism?
3. What immediate action does it intend to take vis-à-vis the Palestinian National Authority in order to ensure that the website is modified so as to reflect the actual political and geographical situation, with a view to preventing the virtual obliteration of Israel (in the eyes of site users) from heralding actual annihilation?
4. Does it not consider that investigations should be launched immediately into the use of the funding made available by the EU to the Palestinian National Authority in order to enable books to be purchased and schooling to be provided, so as to ascertain whether or not what children are taught in school is based on the false information presented on the website? If it is, should payment of the funding not be suspended?