

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2960/03  
by Armando Cossutta (GUE/NGL)  
to the Council

Subject: Middle East peace process

The recent resignation of the Prime Minister of the Palestinian National Authority, Mr Abu Mazen, has made it clear that the obstacles to a genuine peace process in the Middle East remain as severe as ever. There is no doubt that the PNA's actions are strongly influenced by the pressures and actions of the extreme fundamentalist groups, but it is also the case that Israel has not changed its policy.

The 'targeted killings' continue, aimed at alleged authors of terrorist acts - accused of such crimes only by the Israeli government - without recorded investigations or proper trials. The construction continues of the wall intended to cut off the occupied territories from the rest of the country.

In the light of this blockage of the implementation of the 'road map', can the Council answer the following questions:

1. What is its position on the 'targeted killings'?
2. Does it not consider such acts to be incompatible with the existing legal systems in the majority of the Union's Member States?
3. Should it not issue a declaration stating that no-one, and even less so a government, has the right to dictate or execute death sentences without any kind of trial?
4. What action will it take to urge the Israeli government to put an end to such practices?
5. Does it intend to denounce these crimes under the EU/Israel agreements?
6. What action will the Council take should the Israeli government refuse to put an end to these practices?