

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0250/09
by Willy Meyer Pleite (GUE/NGL)
to the Council

Subject: Suspending Member State arms trade with the State of Israel

The recent war in Gaza has again highlighted the Israeli Government's violation of international criminal and humanitarian law in its conflict with the Palestinian people.

The EU-Israel Partnership Agreement contains a clause which makes the Agreement dependent on respect for human rights.

The failure to respect such rights on the part of the Israeli Government is clear:

- use of excessive, indiscriminate force by the Israeli army, leading to the killing of civilians;
- damage to and destruction of civilian infrastructure (hospitals, universities, bridges, roads, electricity supplies and sewerage);
- demolition of housing;
- besieging and isolating the population of Gaza;
- arbitrary arrests and subsequent ill treatment and torture.

Does the Council intend to recommend to the Member States that they suspend their trade in arms with Israel as long as the latter does not respect international criminal and humanitarian law?