

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0251/09
by Willy Meyer Pleite (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Stopping the EU preferential treatment 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 unequivocal:

- 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 Commission think that there should be no preferential treatment in EU relations with Israel until such time as Israel fully complies with international criminal and humanitarian law?