

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0804/09  
by Paul van Buitenen (Verts/ALE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) and Oxfam Novib

It appears that EC funds provided to Oxfam Novib have been transferred to PCHR for the purpose of preparing activities that would focus on the prosecution of Israelis 'suspected of war crimes'. According to a PCHR publication (<http://www.pchrgaza.org/files/PressR/English/2008/2008/53-2008.html>), PCHR co-hosted a one day conference in Cairo that 'focused on extra-judicial executions and prosecution of Israelis suspected of committing war crimes'. The conference is part of PCHR's project 'Awareness raising and lobbying against the Death Penalty in the occupied Palestinian Territory' funded by the European Commission and Oxfam Novib.

EIDHR reports that the 'Death Penalty' project was awarded to Oxfam Novib.

- What evidence does the Commission have regarding the transfer of the EC funds for this project from Oxfam Novib to PCHR? If so, how can this be explained in the light of the EC guidelines and financial regulations (e.g. the rule which specifies that the re-granting of EIDHR grants is limited to a maximum of EUR 10 000)?
- How is this activity consistent with programme goals as approved by the EC, namely 'Awareness raising and lobbying against the Death Penalty in the occupied Palestinian Territory'?