

**Question for written answer E-004281/2012
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 117

Frieda Brepoels (Verts/ALE)

Subject: VP/HR - EU report on East Jerusalem 2011, legislation against the settlement policies and black lists for settlers

In her answer to my question E-000941/2012, the High Representative did not consider it appropriate to comment on the contents or the recommendations of the report on East Jerusalem 2011 by the EU Heads of Mission in Tel Aviv and Ramallah because that report was considered confidential. Since the report has in the meantime appeared in the press and is no longer confidential¹, I consider it appropriate to ask my earlier questions again and to request an answer:

The report on East Jerusalem 2011 drawn up by the EU Heads of Mission in Tel Aviv and Ramallah states that the situation in East Jerusalem is deteriorating and the increase in settlements is undermining the prospects for a two-state solution. According to the report, Israel is pursuing a policy of transferring members of the Jewish population to the occupied Palestinian territory in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and international humanitarian law. Israel is also systematically undermining the Palestinian presence in East Jerusalem, for instance by imposing restrictive building regulations in Palestinian neighbourhoods and by revoking or refusing Palestinian residence permits. Effective action is therefore needed. Legislation is required to prevent financial transactions in support of settlements and to prevent or discourage European companies from engaging in commercial activities supporting Israel's illegal settlement policy. This would be more effective than a political boycott. The second recommendation in the report is that violent settlers who have moved to East Jerusalem should be identified and included in an EU black list in order to deny them entry to the EU.

This report comes in the wake of similar EU reports on East Jerusalem from previous years, and another internal EU report of July 2011, recently highlighted in the press, about Israeli-run Area C, which makes up 62 % of the West Bank. This report notes that the settlements there are also making a two-state solution impossible.

- Will the High Representative heed the two recommendations by the Heads of Mission in Tel Aviv and Ramallah and actively advocate them?
- What specific action will the EU take to help to resolve the Israeli settlement problem?

¹ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-12150792>