

**Question for written answer E-013907/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Auke Zijlstra (NI) and Lucas Hartong (NI)**

**Subject:** Norwegian minister admits the funding of Palestinian terrorists

The Norwegian Government gives the Palestinian Authority (PA) EUR 40 million every year. The Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Espen Barth Eide, has stated that Oslo was misled when the PA claimed that these funds were not used to pay those who have murdered Israelis<sup>1</sup>. Mr Eide's statement came in the wake of the discovery by his ministry that the PA has been transferring money to Palestinian prisoners in Israel every month since 2003. Such payments even increased by 300 % in 2011.

On various occasions, I have expressed my concerns about the EU funding projects for the Palestinian Authority. There is inadequate monitoring of how these funds are spent, as a result of which European taxpayers' money ends up being used for things for which it was not intended (E-008299/2012, E-011818/2013).

1. Is the Commission aware of Mr Eide's statement?
2. Can the Commission assure me that not one cent of EU aid has been given to Palestinian terrorists by the PA, and that only Norwegian money has been misused in this way?
3. If not, can the Commission confirm that the PA is failing to speak the truth when it claims that no money from EU aid is being passed on to Palestinian terrorists?
4. Does the minister's statement provide the Commission with a reason to end the granting of financial aid to the PA?
5. If not, why is the EU funding Palestinian terrorists?
6. If it does, from what date will financial aid to the PA be ceased?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://likud.nl/2013/03/noorse-minister-erkent-leugen-de-ontwikkelingshulp-gaat-wel-naar-palestijnse-terroristen>