

**Question for written answer E-004188/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Giuliano Pisapia (S&D)**

Subject: Situation of NGOs in Israel

On 13 May 2019, the Council adopted the EU annual report on human rights and democracy in the world. In 2018, as in the previous year, EU action was focused on five priority areas: Israel's responsibility as an occupying force; minors; democratic principles; situation of the Arab minority; asylum-seekers, migrants and foreign workers. The report also recognises that there has been a general deterioration of freedom of association and peaceful assembly.

The alarming go-ahead given by the Supreme Court of Israel to the deportation of Omar Shakir, Director of Humans Rights Watch for Palestine and Israel, confirms there is a gradual and steady deterioration of respect for the above-mentioned rights.

Given that the EU's external action is based on respect for human rights, that Israel is a EU associated country, that Article 2 of the Association Agreement binds the parties to respect for human rights and democratic principles, and that the EU is Israel's leading trading partner, what measures will the Commission take to halt the ongoing deterioration of the situation as regards civil society organisations and respect for human rights by Israel?