

**Question for written answer E-003157/2021
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

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Subject: The concept of proportionality in the conflict between Hamas and the State of Israel

During the recent Israel-Hamas conflict, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) issued a statement requesting proportionality in the conflict between Hamas and the State of Israel. Taking into consideration that the concept of proportionality is difficult to understand in the context of war, I would like to ask the VP/HR the following questions:

1. In what sense was the term 'proportionality' being used in the statement: the legal sense, the grammatical sense or another sense?
2. If it was being used in the legal sense, how can it be applied to the laws of war, if applicable?
3. How does the VP/HR envisage proportionality being applied to a conflict in theory?