

**Question for written answer E-002264/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Jordi Solé** (Verts/ALE), **Margrete Auken** (Verts/ALE), **Grace O'Sullivan** (Verts/ALE), **Rosa D'Amato** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** EU memorandum of understanding with Egypt and Israel on natural gas, and the absence of a territorial clause

On 15 June 2022, the EU, Egypt and Israel signed a memorandum of understanding<sup>1</sup> on cooperation related to trade, transport and export of natural gas to the European Union (MoU). This MoU, negotiated and signed by the Commission on behalf of the EU, does not contain a territorial clause explicitly excluding the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel. This omission appears to contradict the long-standing EU decision that 'all agreements between the State of Israel and the European Union must unequivocally and explicitly indicate their inapplicability to the territories occupied by Israel in 1967<sup>2</sup>', as well as UN Security Council (UNSC) resolution 2334, which calls on all states 'to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967'.

1. Why did the Commission sign an agreement with Israel without a territorial clause limiting its applicability to Israel's internationally recognised borders, thereby contravening the EU positions and UN Security Council requirements thereon?
2. Can it confirm whether any aspects of the agreement apply to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including its exclusive economic zone as declared by the State of Palestine on 24 September 2019?
3. Can Israeli settlements benefit from investments relating to carbon capture under this MoU?

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/eu-egypt-israel-memorandum-understanding\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/eu-egypt-israel-memorandum-understanding_en)

<sup>2</sup> e.g. the Council conclusions of 10 December 2012 on the Middle East Peace Process.