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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell i Fontelles on behalf of the European Commission
(3.10.2022)

It is the EU’s firm position that settlements have no legal validity and constitute a violation under international law as indicated in the United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016) and numerous Foreign Affairs Council conclusions¹. The EU will not recognise any changes to the pre-1967 borders, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties.

The EU has publicly reiterated its strong opposition to Israel’s settlement policy and actions taken in this context. The EU and its Member States raise this issue of concern regularly in bilateral contacts with Israeli authorities. The Association Council is the highest bilateral political forum between the EU and Israel and allows parties to engage on all topics related to EU-Israel relations.

A visit to the region would be a positive sign. The President of the Commission has visited Israel and the Palestinian Authorities in June 2022.