

Question for written answer E-002844/2022/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 138
Marc Botenga (The Left)

Subject: Israeli destructions of EU-funded projects and schools in Palestine

According to reporting by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, mentioned in the ECHO Daily Flash, during the first six months of 2022, Israeli forces demolished or seized a total of 388 Palestinian-owned structures, including 47 EU-funded assets worth over EUR 145 000, and displaced at least 491 people. June 2022 marked a record month with regard to Israel's issuing of demolition orders, particularly against EU-funded structures, with 55 structures at risk of imminent demolition, including schools in Massafer Yatta and Ein Samiya.

Although a formal statement from EU representatives urged Israel to halt demolitions, evictions and confiscations on occupied Palestinian land, including of EU-funded projects, demolitions have continued unabatedly.

1. Did the Commission use all means of communication and diplomatic action to urge Israel to halt these demolitions and if so, what response did it receive from Israeli authorities on this matter?
2. What concrete measures, reactions or sanctions is the Commission considering to force Israel to halt these demolitions, evictions and confiscations?
3. As Israel has been regularly demolishing Palestinian and EU-funded infrastructure for several years, flatly ignoring EU calls not to do so, does the Commission consider that the time has come to impose sanctions against Israel in order to halt this phenomenon?