

**Question for written answer E-003874/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Access to healthcare in the occupied Palestinian territory

The Israeli occupation, including the siege of Gaza, has had a devastating impact on the health and well-being of Palestinians, as well as on the Palestinian healthcare system.

Palestinian patients routinely see their access to medical care denied or delayed by the Israeli authorities. They are required to request permits to access healthcare even though more than 80 % of the referrals are to Palestinian hospitals, including the EU-supported East Jerusalem Hospitals Network.

Around 46 % of permits were denied or delayed in 2021, while 32 % of minors' applications made between January and September 2021 were delayed or denied.

Consistent damage to Palestinian health services has led to striking disparities between the services available to Palestinians and to Israelis respectively.

1. What steps has the Commission taken to address the complete disregard for international law shown by the Israeli authorities and the human rights violations to which they have subjected Palestinian patients?
2. What action will it take to help uphold the basic rights of Palestinian patients and ensure their access to healthcare, including in the case of children fighting cancer who are denied their right to be accompanied to treatment by a parent?

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