

**Question for written answer E-000387/2023**

**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: Israeli authorities violate Palestinians' freedom of movement

Two members of the Palestinian Children's Council in Gaza had planned to travel to Brussels on 14 November 2022 to meet with European officials and decision makers and to represent the children of Gaza.

The travel permits requested from the Israeli authorities were never issued<sup>1</sup>. The authorities explained that they needed more 'security clearances' and asked us to reapply and wait another 14 days.

They reapplied for the permits on 1 December 2022, but the Israeli authorities never replied. The permits have been 'in process' ever since, but have never been issued.

Given that movement restrictions should only be imposed in exceptional cases of security concern as defined by international humanitarian law:

1. Will the EU take action to persuade Israel to stop violating the right of movement of Palestinians?
2. Will the EU ensure that members of the Palestinian Children's Council in Gaza can visit Parliament?

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<sup>1</sup> As a result of the separation policy and the Israeli Civil Administration's procedures, permits are required to allow the girls to travel through the Israeli controlled Erez checkpoint to the Allenby Bridge (at the border with Jordan) so that they could fly to Brussels from Amman.