

**Question for written answer E-000512/2023/rev.1**

**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: Commission participation in the ICJ advisory opinion on the legal status of Israel's occupation and its consequences

On 30 December 2022, the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 77/400 decided to request an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) relating to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

According to Article 34 (2) of the Statute of the ICJ, an international organisation may present information relevant to cases before it on its own initiative. In the Chagos advisory opinion at the ICJ in 2018, the African Union presented observations in the written procedure and participated in the oral proceedings. In the ongoing ICJ case concerning allegations of genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (*Ukraine v Russian Federation*), the EU provided the court with relevant information<sup>1</sup>.

1. Will the VP/HR present relevant information to the ICJ concerning the aforementioned case on the Israeli occupation of Palestine?
2. If so, will the VP/HR make the EU policy on differentiation between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories explicit and will he explain the EU policy towards other unlawful situations of annexation/occupation?
3. If not, why has the EU decided to intervene in the case of Ukraine and not Palestine?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.icj-cij.org/public/files/case-related/182/182-20220818-PRE-01-00-EN.pdf>.