

**Question for written answer E-001478/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Data exchange agreement between Europol and Israel in view of the recent Israeli judicial reform

In January 2023 Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu put forward a reform of Israel's judicial system threatening the judiciary's independence. This prompted mass protests.

On 28 March 2023 Commissioner Didier Reynders said that the Commission has 'some concerns about the situation in Israel'. He confirmed that negotiations for an adequacy decision were currently suspended as the guarantees for the security of Europeans' personal data transferred to Israel had become uncertain.

However, the negotiations for an operational agreement between Europol and Israel are still open.

The draft agreement contains a substantial derogation to the territorial limitation prescribed by international law, i.e. excluding the Palestinian territory Israel has occupied since 1967 (oPt)<sup>1</sup>.

1. Can the Commission explicitly confirm that it has paused the negotiations with Israel on the operational agreement with Europol, as it did with the adequacy decision?
2. How will the Commission assess the impacts of the judicial reform on the transfer of personal data between Europol and Israeli authorities for law enforcement purposes, and does the Commission consider the nature and extent of the Israeli judicial reform enough to question the future of the agreement?
3. How will the Commission ensure that Israel will not use EU personal data to increase control over the oPt?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.statewatch.org/media/3582/eu-europol-israel-agreement-wk-12569-22.pdf>.