

**Question for written answer E-002781/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Charlie Weimers (ECR)**

**Subject:** The EU's response to the latest antisemitic comments by Mahmoud Abbas

Last month, Mahmoud Abbas – the president of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) and of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) – made an address to Fatah's Revolutionary Council. In his speech, which cannot be called anything other than antisemitic, he said:

'They say that Hitler killed the Jews because they were Jews and that Europe hated the Jews because they were Jews. Not true. It was clearly explained that [the Europeans] fought [the Jews] because of their social role, and not their religion. [...] [The Europeans] fought against these people because of their role in society, which had to do with usury, money and so forth [...].'<sup>1</sup>

On many occasions in the past, Mahmoud Abbas has openly expressed antisemitic views, Holocaust denial and hate against the Jewish community.

In the light of the EU strategy on combating antisemitism<sup>2</sup>:

1. What action has the Commission taken in response to these statements by Mahmoud Abbas?
2. Does the Commission plan to continue to support and work with the PNA?
3. What other antisemitic organisations does the Commission work with and what are its reasons for doing so?

Submitted: 21.9.2023

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.memri.org/reports/palestinian-president-mahmoud-abbas-hitler-fought-european-jews-because-their-usury-money>

<sup>2</sup> EU Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life (2021-2030)