

**Question for written answer E-000065/2024**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

**Irena Joveva** (Renew)

Subject: EU firms doing business with Israeli companies operating in the occupied Palestinian territories

In Gaza, the death toll is rising by the day and we are witnessing deaths mass destruction on an unprecedented scale. Civilians, including journalists and their family members, are targets of kidnapping and murder. Even hospital staff and humanitarian workers are not spared.

It has been reported that the number of children killed in Gaza in just three weeks exceeded the annual number of children killed in global conflict zones – in more than 20 countries – every year since 2019.

The action being carried out by Israel has been in direct violation of the Geneva Conventions and international humanitarian law since the beginning of the war. Nevertheless, some EU companies are still doing business with Israeli companies operating in the occupied Palestinian territories. The settlements are also illegal under international law, specifically under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Companies from Member States which trade with illegal settlements legitimise violations of the Geneva Conventions and international law, including attacks against civilians, children, journalists, humanitarian workers and UNRWA personnel.

Does the EU intend to prohibit companies from EU Member States from trading with companies operating in these settlements? If not, why not, and if it does intend to do so, when should such a ban be imposed?

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