

**Question for written answer E-000295/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Monika Hohlmeier (PPE)

Subject: UNRWA – 10 % of workers linked to Hamas

According to US media reports, 10 % of UNRWA's 12 000 employees are directly or indirectly collaborating with the terrorist organisation Hamas. This means that a large number of UNRWA staff were involved in the terrible terrorist attacks carried out on Israel on 7 October 2023, which resulted in more than 1 200 deaths and hundreds of kidnappings. In light of the above, it is uncertain how the Commission intends to continue providing further financial support to UNRWA using Union taxpayers' money.

1. What action does the Commission intend to take beyond the measures announced by Commissioner Várhelyi on 29 January 2024, when talk was only of 12 staff members?
2. If the Commission learns the names of the 1 200 accused persons, what direct action does it intend to take to prevent them from being paid with EU taxpayers' money?
3. Given the structural problems faced by UNRWA and the large-scale employment of members of a terrorist organisation, does the Commission consider it necessary to call for a change of mandate and thus a change in the tasks entrusted to UNRWA, or even to permanently reassign parts of the funding allocated to UNRWA to other organisations?

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