

**Question for written answer E-000750/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** EU humanitarian aid blocked at the Rafah crossing

From 3 to 6 March, a delegation from the Italian Democratic Party travelled to Egypt as part of a mission organised by the Association of Italian Organisations for International Cooperation and Solidarity (AOI network). The delegation crossed the Sinai Peninsula accompanying a humanitarian aid convoy to the Rafah crossing, where it met with the humanitarian organisations that are operating in Gaza.

The delegation noted that the Israeli authorities blocked access to the Rafah crossing to more than 1 500 trucks carrying water, food and medicines. In the logistics centre of the Egyptian Red Crescent, some essential items, such as incubators for babies, crutches and oxygen cylinders, cannot cross the border, as they are considered dangerous by the Israeli authorities. A particularly serious finding was the blocked delivery of housing modules and generators for hospitals, financed using funds from the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the World Food Programme.

In view of this:

1. Is the Commission aware of the blockade of this humanitarian aid financed using DG ECHO funds?
2. What steps will it take to unblock the passage of this humanitarian aid as soon as possible?

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