

**Question for oral answer O-000130/2011
to the Council**

Rule 115

**Willy Meyer, Nikolaos Chountis, Paul Murphy, Patrick Le Hyaric, Marie-Christine Vergiat,
Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, Bairbre de Brún, Sabine Lösing, Sabine Wils**

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Subject: Humanitarian flotilla to Gaza II

Representatives from the organisation of the Freedom Flotilla II visited Parliament on 10 May 2011 and met many MEPs to present information on the new aid flotilla which should set sail for Gaza in the third week of June carrying humanitarian aid on board.

On the morning of 31 May 2010 a convoy of six ships bound for Gaza, known as the Freedom Flotilla, with more than 750 civilians and tonnes of aid on board, was attacked in the open sea by Israeli soldiers. The result of this act of violence was the death of nine people and the injury of many more.

According to recent articles in the press, Israeli military officers are saying that preparations are under way to stop any flotilla.

What measures will the Council take to avoid a repetition of the tragic events of 31 May 2010 and to support protection of the humanitarian activists?

What measures will the Council take to ensure that international human rights standards are adhered to?

What steps is the Council taking with a view to bringing to an end the humanitarian aid blockade of Gaza?

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Forwarded: 24.5.2011

Deadline for reply: 14.6.2011