

Question for written answer P-002574/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Konstantinos Papadakis (NI) and Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)

Subject: VP/HR - Latest indiscriminate slaughter of Palestinians

The murderous attack carried out today by Israeli government forces against unarmed Palestinians, including women, disabled people and young children protesting at the transfer of the US embassy to Jerusalem and its facto recognition as the 'capital' of Israel, has, up to now, claimed dozens of lives and left over 2000 injured, a truly tragic toll. Since the commencement on 30 March of demonstrations for the return of Palestinian refugees, over 100 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli gunfire.

The EU and the governments of its Member States bear a heavy responsibility in view of their decision to develop economic, political and military cooperation with the State of Israel and maintain an 'equal distance'. The Syriza-Anel government, which is cultivating closer relations with Israel, is a case in point. The Prime Minister, Mr Tsipras, recently went so far as to acclaim what he referred to as mediation for peace by the United States and by the Trump administration, which are in fact sparking off further Israeli aggression.

In view of this:

Can the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy comment on the fact that closer cooperation with Israel on the part of the EU and its Member State governments is actually encouraging it to perpetrate criminal acts, resulting in the increasingly indiscriminate slaughter of Palestinians seeking an independent State of Palestine delimited by its 1967 borders and with East Jerusalem as its capital?