

**Priority question for written answer P-003471/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Jean-Paul Garraud (ID), Anders Vistisen (ID), Nicolaus Fest (ID), Philippe Olivier (ID), Patricia Chagnon (ID), Jaak Madison (ID)

Subject: Amnesty International does not class Hamas as a 'terrorist' organisation

Amnesty International, a human rights organisation, has reportedly received over EUR 12 million from the European Commission since 2007¹².

In 2010, the NGO had invoked³ the right to health of a Belgian detainee in Iraq on the grounds of an illness he did not actually have⁴, thus facilitating his repatriation to Belgium. He then became the mastermind of the Bataclan attacks and reportedly radicalised the future suicide bombers of the Brussels attacks.

Following the pogrom of 7 October 2023, the President of Amnesty France refused to use the term 'terrorist' to refer to Hamas 'because the term "terrorist" is not recognised by international law'⁵. However, Hamas is on the EU list of terrorist entities⁶, and Amnesty has already used this term to refer to the Boko Haram group in the past⁷.

1. Does the Commission confirm that it has paid over EUR 12 million to Amnesty International since 2007?
2. Will it finally systematically ask those applying for or currently receiving EU funds to explicitly approve or acknowledge the list of persons and entities that the EU classifies as terrorists?
3. In the event of refusal, will it request the termination of the grant agreement and repayment of the sums paid?

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¹ https://euaideexplorer.ec.europa.eu/index_en

² <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/index.html>

³ <https://www.amnesty.be/IMG/pdf/urgent-action-oussama-atar.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.parismatch.com/Actu/International/Pourquoi-les-Belges-ont-libere-le-cerveau-des-attentats-du-Bataclan-1505504>

⁵ <https://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/le-president-d-amnesty-france-refuse-de-qualifier-le-hamas-de-groupe-terroriste-20231104>

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32009E0468>

⁷ <https://www.amnesty.ch/fr/pays/afrique/nigeria/docs/2012/rapport-boko-haram>