

## Press Release

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### **Jana Hybášková MEP against the invitation of Members of Hamas to the European Parliament**

[http://www.epp-ed.eu/Members/en/ShowMember.asp?PERS\\_ID=28350](http://www.epp-ed.eu/Members/en/ShowMember.asp?PERS_ID=28350)Jana

Hybášková MEP, Chairwoman of the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with Israel, has strongly condemned the extreme position of Kyriacos Triantaphyllides MEP (GUE/NGL, Cyprus), Chairman of the EP Delegation for Relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council, on Hamas. Mr Triantaphyllides invited Members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, including members of Hamas and Fatah, to the European Parliament yesterday. Hamas is listed on the EU list of terror organisations. Mr Triantaphyllides' position goes against the recent European Parliament Resolution of 4 September 2008 on the situation of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

Both the Delegation for Relations with Israel and the EPP-ED Group strongly and actively support unified and coherent policy of the European Union (Council and Commission) and The Quartet on the Middle East. The Quartet and the EU's conditions are that Hamas commits to non-violence, recognises Israel's right to exist, and accepts current Mid-east peace agreements.

Since there has been absolutely no change in the approach to Hamas, as it is not ready to change its Charta, there is no reason to break the unity of the European position and therefore breach European security.

"I consider Kyriacos Triantaphyllides' position as very minor and isolated in the European Parliament and I am ashamed that it was presented as an official position of the European Parliament to the Israeli media", Hybášková commented.

#### **For further information:**

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*Notes to Editors*

*The EPP-ED Group is the largest political group in the European Parliament with 288 Members from all 27 Member States.*

