

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

*Delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council*

DPLC\_PV(2008)0911

## **MINUTES**

of the meeting of 11 September 2008, from 10.15 to 11.15  
BRUSSELS

The meeting opened at 10.15 on Thursday, 11 September 2008, with Kyriacos Triantaphyllides (Chair) in the chair.

The Chair welcomed Leila Shahid, the General Delegate of Palestine, and also Paul LaRudee/Wilder and Osama Qashoo, from the Free Gaza Movement.

### **1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 401.181 )**

The agenda was adopted with one change:

- exchange of views with our two guests from the FGM, who were active in last August's voyage by two boats through Greek waters and from Cyprus to Gaza.

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 25 June 2008 (PE401.182)**

The minutes were approved.

### **3. Announcements by the Chair**

#### 3.1 Some information on various Middle East activities

- The EuroMed Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA) was to meet in Jordan on 12 and 13 October. A preparatory meeting would take place on 24 September in Brussels with the members of the Middle East Working Group.

- In Brussels, during the session, two IPMs:

- 23-25 September: IPM EP-Israel (five-member delegation)

The delegation was invited to meet with them on Wednesday 24 September (from 9.45 to 10.30).

An exhibition would be opened at 18.00 on Tuesday 23 September, in the Distribution area of the third floor of the ASP building.

- 24-25 September: IPM EP-Lebanon (six-member delegation)

- From 6 to 9 August President Pöttering had paid an official visit to Syria and Lebanon as President of Parliament and President of the EMPA.

- Two EP members of the Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights of the EMPA would be joining an ad hoc EMPA delegation to the Palestinian Territories and Israeli borders in Gaza (end of November 2008).

#### **4. Discussion of the draft programme for the visit to the Palestinian Legislative Council**

The Chair reported on the progress of preparations for the mission planned for 31 October to 3 November 2008. To date there had been no response from the Israeli authorities to the request to be able to visit the elected members of the PLC who were held in Israeli prisons. An exchange of views ensued on whether this objective should be maintained and on the feasibility of the programme. It was agreed:

- to continue to press the Israeli authorities, if necessary specifically mentioning the PLC elected members whom the delegation wanted to meet (Marwan Barghouti and Aziz Dweik);
- if authorisation was refused, to meet the families of detainees or freed prisoners and to find out about detention conditions;
- to focus the mission on the issue of prisoners and contacts with the PLC elected members, and to check whether the programme was feasible.

#### **5. Breaking the siege of GAZA: Two boats for Freedom**

The Chair introduced Paul LaRudee and Osama Qashoo, active representatives of the Free Gaza movement, which was trying to break the siege of Gaza through seaborne non-violent action. Paul LaRudee was American, 61 years old, PhD in linguistics, teacher and writer and one of the founders of FGM. Osama Qashoo was 27 years old, grew up in Palestine, lived in London, and was a film-maker and one of the founders of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). Both were 'Palestinian human rights activists'. They took an active part in the trip by the two boats (with 44 people) from Cyprus to Gaza last August.

Paul LaRudee showed his passport with the stamp of the PA at Gaza, without going through an intermediate country: a first so far. He described the preparations, from Greece, for the voyage of these two boats which met in Cyprus before reaching the coast at Gaza without being intercepted by the Israeli navy. Their movement encouraged such initiatives with the support of neighbouring states, Cyprus in this case, which had carried out the necessary checks in advance. He suggested that the international community should consider a structure which could facilitate such operations.

-Osama Qashoo spoke of his youth spent in Palestine, his hopes and his many activities aiming to give the people a livelihood. A discussion ensued on respect for human rights, in particular the right to leave one's country and return to it. It was agreed to seek all possible support for freedom of access with a view to containing the security pressures of the Israeli authorities.

The Chair thanked the two speakers and said that the discussion could be continued at the hearing to take place the same day from 12.45 to 13.45, in room A5 E2, an initiative of the Chair, and of Luisa Morgantini, Frida Brepoels and Chris Davies.

## **6. Activities 2009**

The Chair suggested inviting a delegation from the PLC to visit Strasbourg during the week of 23 to 26 March 2009, for a further interparliamentary meeting. The invitation could be delivered during the visit to Ramallah in November.

## **7. Date and place of next meeting**

The next meeting of the delegation could take place in Strasbourg on Wednesday 22 October (pm)

The meeting closed at 11.15.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/JELENLÉTI ÍV/  
REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTÁ DE PREZENÇÁ/  
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Předsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Kyriacos Triantaphyllides
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Frieda Brepoels, Chris Davies, Caroline Lucas, Luisa Morgantini,
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
David Martín, Miguel Portas

178 (2)
183 (3)
46 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/ Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/ Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/ Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozváni předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Рѣс пріексэдѣтāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina taç-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozwanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
Paul Larudee and Osama Qashoo - Free Gaza Movement

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nðukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)
Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Ini účastníci/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare																
Galit Peleg - Embassy of Israel, Adel Atieh - Palestinian Mission, Leila Shahid - Palestinian Mission																
Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Sekretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Fracijų sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Sekretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppernas sekretariat																
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PPE-DE</td> <td>Eva Mitsopoulou</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PSE</td> <td>Zoltan Simon, Bruno Marasi</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ALDE</td> <td>Niccolo Rinaldi</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Verts/ALE</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>GUE/NGL</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>IND/DEM</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>UEN</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>NI</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	PPE-DE	Eva Mitsopoulou	PSE	Zoltan Simon, Bruno Marasi	ALDE	Niccolo Rinaldi	Verts/ALE		GUE/NGL		IND/DEM		UEN		NI	
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<p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariat výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusseksretariat/Komisjoni sekretariiat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet</p>	
<p>Christian Garrigues, Lars Nielsen</p>	
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p>	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem/Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Μέλος/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Membri/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membri/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman