

**Question for written answer E-003223/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Lukas Mandl (PPE)

Subject: EU funding for educational material to UNRWA

On 20 April 2024, the Colonna report identified the curriculum of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) – made up of Palestinian Authority textbooks and self-created supplementary materials – as a ‘grave violation of neutrality’. It called on UNRWA to ‘ban any hate speech, incitation to violence and/or antisemitic references from host-country textbooks and locally produced supplements in UNRWA schools’ (recommendation 35). However, UNRWA’s own reporting reveals minimal progress. In January 2025, UNRWA stated that five recommendations had been fully implemented, with 25 targeted for completion by the end of 2025¹. In a March 2025 tweet, UNRWA claimed that nine of the 50 recommendations were either completed or in progress. However, in an update in April 2025², UNRWA reiterated that only five recommendations had been completed, indicating no further progress, or even regression. At no point has UNRWA mentioned any progress on implementing recommendation 35. Nevertheless, in June 2025, the Commission disbursed EUR 52 million to UNRWA, partially earmarked for education.

1. What evidence of (educational) reform did the Commission rely on to justify the EUR 52 million disbursement in June 2025?
2. What oversight mechanisms exist to verify the implementation of recommendation 35 and other recommendations before future disbursements are made?
3. Will the Commission consider suspending or conditioning future education funding to UNRWA pending verified compliance with all 50 recommendations?

Submitted: 11.8.2025

¹ United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, ‘UNRWA Implementation of Colonna Report: Quarterly Report January 2025’,
https://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/content/resources/ist_012025_progressreport_01202025.pdf.

² United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, ‘UNRWA Implementation of Colonna Report: Quarterly Report April 2025’,
https://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/content/resources/ist_05_2025_quarterlyreport.pdf.