

**Question for written answer E-003661/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Political and trade relations with Israel

On 12 September, the Stati Generali della Difesa ('General Assembly on Defence') took place in Frascati. The latest developments in defence were discussed at the event, which was organised by the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Space Agency.

The programme¹ included speeches by representatives of companies such as Rheinmetall, which is one of the companies reportedly supplying weapons to Israel.²

In her State of the Union address on 10 September 2025, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said that 'what is happening in Gaza is unacceptable' and announced that she would propose suspending bilateral support to Israel and that legislative measures would be proposed.³

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware that companies selling arms to Israel were represented at the Stati Generali della Difesa?
2. Does it believe that the presence of representatives of companies supplying arms to Israel should be avoided at events organised or sponsored by the Commission?
3. Does it intend to propose a ban on the export of military equipment to Israel until Israel ceases its hostilities towards the Palestinian people?

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¹ Available here: <https://rome.europarl.europa.eu/files/live/sites/eplo-rome/files/news/2025/Programma%20IT%20-%20Stati%20Generali%20della%20Difesa%20C%20dello%20Spazio%20e%20della%20Cybersicurezza%20-%2012%20settembre%20Frascati%20-ESA.pdf>

² See article by Der Spiegel: <https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/gaza-krieg-bundesregierung-prueft-lieferung-von-panzermunition-an-israel-a-0f0ce68d-7752-4b8e-81eb-9bd3a5692eeb>

³ 2025 State of the Union Address by President von der Leyen: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/SPEECH_25_2053