Question for written answer E-002515/2026/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
Rima Hassan (The Left), Mounir Satouri (Verts/ALE), Anthony Smith (The Left), David Cormand (Verts/ALE), Estrella Galán (The Left), Annalisa Corrado (S&D), Mélissa Camara (Verts/ALE), Jaume Asens Llodrà (Verts/ALE), Özlem Demirel (The Left), Manon Aubry (The Left), Catarina Vieira (Verts/ALE), Leila Chaibi (The Left), Maria Ohisalo (Verts/ALE), Hanna Gedin (The Left), Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left), Danilo Della Valle (The Left), Cecilia Strada (S&D), Arash Saeidi (The Left), Nikos Pappas (The Left), Daniel Attard (S&D), Benedetta Scuderi (Verts/ALE), Sara Matthieu (Verts/ALE), Emma Fourreau (The Left), Pernando Barrena Arza (The Left)

Subject: Systematic sexualised torture against Palestinian detainees

A recent article in *The New York Times*[1] compiles heart-rending interviews with Palestinians recounting a pattern of widespread sexual violence by Israeli settlers, soldiers, prison guards and Shin Bet interrogators against men, women and children. Testimonies describe rape, rape with objects, gang rape, beatings of genitals, sexual abuse involving dogs, and the taking of photographs during assaults to coerce cooperation, followed by threats after release.

These allegations reflect a systemic pattern of violence and dehumanisation, rather than isolated acts. They corroborate findings documented by organisations such as Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor[2] and B'Tselem[3], and a United Nations[4] report concluding that Palestinians are 'systematically' subjected to sexualised torture with at least implicit encouragement from senior civilian and military leaders. Israel has rejected calls to investigate abuses against Palestinians.

Since October 2023, Israel has detained over 20 000 Palestinians in the West Bank, largely without charging them, and has denied these detainees access to basic rights.

1. Does the Commission condemn these practices?

2. Will these practices be considered a further breach of Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement[5], justifying its suspension?

3. What could the Commission do to help ensure that the International Committee of the Red Cross has full and immediate access to all detention facilities holding Palestinian detainees?

Submitted: 17.6.2026

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1 https://www.nytimes.com/2026/05/11/opinion/israel-palestinians-sexual-violence.html?unlocked_article_code=1.hlA.kfgZ.ZMP5yQa7u9k7&smid=url-share.
2 https://euromedmonitor.org/uploads/reports/En-Another-Genocide.pdf.
3 https://www.btselem.org/publications/202601_living_hell.
4 https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session58/a-hrc-58-crp-6.pdf.
5 Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part (OJ L 147, 21.6.2000, p. 3, http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2000/384/oj).