

**Question for written answer E-003329/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Settler violence in the West Bank and protecting Christian communities

Palestinian civilians in the West Bank are the target of escalating violence, intimidation and attacks at the hands of Israeli settlers.

A particular flashpoint is Taybeh, a Christian majority village, where incidents of violence and intimidation have played out on land and property close to residential homes and places of worship. Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa and other representatives of the Church have visited the community and called on the authorities to ensure its security.

Serious incidents have also been reported in and around Qusra, where acts of settler aggression, property incursions and violence against Palestinian residents attest to the declining security situation and the danger of local communities being forced to abandon their homes.

Civil protection, religious freedom and respect for fundamental rights are among the principles guiding EU external action under Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. What steps will it take to counter settler violence and protect civilians in the West Bank, including in Taybeh and Qusra?
2. What instruments will it use specifically to protect the Christian communities, their property and places of worship?
3. Does it intend to leverage EU-Israel relations to compel the Israeli authorities to take concrete action against the violence and ensure that local communities are able to stay?

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