

Priority question for written answer P-003346/2025

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

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Subject: Will the EU press for the UN General Assembly to be moved to Geneva in the light of Trump's ban on Palestinian participation at the highest level?

The Trump regime has controversially decided to exclude Palestinian politicians and officials from the UN General Assembly in September, in breach of the 1947 Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations.

This was done by revoking or refusing to grant US visas. One of the implications of this decision is that Mahmoud Abbas, the President of the Palestinian Authority, will be unable to address the General Assembly – something he has done in the past.

This is an outrageous move given the Netanyahu regime's extreme dreams of annexing Gaza, and its brutal attacks on Palestinian civilians.

The EU needs to take immediate action, and this means doing more than simply writing an angry letter to the US administration.

In 1988, when the US tried to prevent Yasser Arafat from speaking at the UN by refusing him a visa, the General Assembly was temporarily moved to Geneva. This needs to happen again, both to uphold the Palestinians' right to be represented and to send a clear signal to Trump.

Could the Vice-President / High Representative therefore please answer the following questions:

1. Will active efforts be made to temporarily move the UN's annual General Assembly to Geneva to allow Palestine's representatives to take part?
2. What other specific steps will be taken to ensure that the Palestinians are not silenced in the UN?

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