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Answer given by Ms Šuica
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.7.2025)

The EU is following closely the impact of the war in Gaza on the delivery of essential services to Palestinians, in particular its consequences on EU-funded projects and capacities of implementing partners to operate. On water, at the moment, there are no reports of destruction of the EU-funded water facilities in Gaza. The EU-funded Short Term Low Volume (STLV) desalination plant in the South of the Gaza Strip, run by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has been one of the major sources of safe water for the population in Gaza since October 2023. The STLV sea water desalination plant has remained operational since October 2023. However, it is not working at full capacity as it relies on available fuel for generators and on solar field, since its access to electricity through the Israeli feeder line 'F11' has been cut since March 2025. As of end of May 2025, its average production of water was of 2 500 cubic meter per day compared to a maximum theoretical capacity of 20 000 cubic meter per day. Production of water depends on whether the STLV is connected or not to the electricity feeder line or if it relies on generators and solar panels.

The decision to apply restrictive measures (sanctions) under the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy is under the responsibility of the Council and not of the Commission.