

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000984/25
to the Council
João Oliveira (The Left)
(6 March 2025)**

Subject: Need for a permanent ceasefire and the escalation of violence in the West Bank

The ceasefire in the Gaza Strip on 15 January 2025 made it possible to ramp up humanitarian aid, although a far cry from what is really needed. According to figures dating from mid-February from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 91% of the Palestinian people are still enduring acute food insecurity. More than 48 000 Palestinians have lost their lives and over 111 000 have been wounded owing to Israel's genocide-like action. On top of this, some 70% of Palestine's infrastructure has been razed to the ground, as its territory continues to be destroyed.

Despite the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, Israeli military attacks in the West Bank are going from bad to worse. According to the UN, more than 40 000 Palestinians have been forced from their homes and land, on a scale that hasn't been seen in decades, and between 21 January and 20 February of this year, Israeli forces reportedly killed 51 Palestinians in the West Bank.

In the light of the above:

1. What measures is the Council taking to ensure that the ceasefire becomes permanent and that humanitarian aid actually finds its way to where it is needed?
2. Is the Council in favour of suspending the EU-Israel Association Agreement and imposing an arms embargo, among other measures?
3. What measures will the Council take to ensure that the Palestinian people can enjoy their rights as a nation, to put an end to the Israeli occupation and to create a Palestine state, as has been called for in UN resolutions?

Submitted: 6.3.2025

**Reply
(28 January 2026)**

The EU has welcomed the agreement reached on the first phase of the Comprehensive Plan to end the Gaza Conflict put forward by President Trump, as well as the outcome of the Sharm el-Sheikh Summit for Peace held on 13 October 2025, and has called on all parties to fully commit to implementing all phases and to refrain from any actions that jeopardise the agreement.

The EU is committed to international law and to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the two-state solution in accordance with relevant UN Security Council Resolutions where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side-by-side in peace within secure and recognised borders.

The European Union will continue to contribute to peace efforts and to actively engage with partners on the next steps. It will support the rapid, safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid in coordination with international partners, including via the Cyprus Maritime Corridor to supplement land routes.

It will make full use of its missions European Union Border Assistance Mission to the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah) and European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS).

Their mandates should be strengthened. The European Union stands also ready to contribute to Gaza's stabilisation, transitional governance, recovery and reconstruction ⁽¹⁾.

Concerning the EU-Israel Association Agreement, following up on the discussion of 23 June 2025 on the review of Israel's compliance with Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, the Foreign Affairs Council on 15 July 2025 exchanged views on an inventory of possible follow-up measures ⁽²⁾.

The Council also recalls its replies to Written Questions E-000431/2025 and E-001357/2024, and as regards the arms trade, the Council recalls its reply to Written Question P-003630/2023.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/d2nhnqso/20251023-european-council-conclusions-en.pdf>

⁽²⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2025/07/15/>