

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001465/25
to the Commission
Moritz Körner (Renew)
(9 April 2025)**

Subject: Textbooks

The Commission commissioned a study by the Georg Eckert Institute on Palestinian textbooks in 2021, which showed that:

- A religious studies textbook asked students to discuss the ‘repeated attempts by the Jews to kill the prophet Muhammad’ and inquired about ‘other enemies of Islam’;
- A maths textbook illustrated Newton’s second law of motion using a picture of Palestinians hitting Israeli soldiers with slingshots;
- In science and maths books, terrorists were praised, and those killed were referred to as martyrs;
- A female terrorist who killed several Jews was cited as an example of female empowerment;
- Most maps replaced Israel with ‘Palestine’.

Can the Commission say, which of the above five issues no longer persists? If the Commission does not know, why does it not know?

Submitted: 9.4.2025

**Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(22 July 2025)**

The Palestinian Authority (PA) committed to the reform process, including the education sector, through a letter of intent in July 2024, which will be part of the Multiannual Comprehensive Support Programme to foster Palestinian recovery and resilience, announced on 14 April 2025 during the High-Level Political Dialogue with the PA.

The education sector reform envisaged by the PA encompasses various aspects, including the revision of textbooks to align with United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) standards.

In this context, it is noteworthy that the Ministry of Education has a continuous process of reviewing and amending textbooks used in Palestinian schools.

The latest round started with grade 12 as of end 2024 and has moved in recent months to earlier grades. The Commission and other donors are also introducing technical assistance to monitor and support the education reform and the revision of textbook and educational material.

Newly published books, adhering to Unesco standards, are expected to be used for grades one to four starting in September 2025, with other grades following for the school year 2026/27.
