

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001766/25
to the Commission
Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE)
(30 April 2025)**

Subject: Death of 17-year old Palestinian prisoner Walid Ahmad in Israeli prison

On 17 April 2025, children's rights non-governmental organisation Defense for Children International — Palestine (DCIP) reported ⁽¹⁾ the death of 17-year old Palestinian prisoner Walid Ahmad earlier this month in the Israeli Megiddo prison after months of untreated infections, prolonged malnutrition, dehydration and intense beatings from Israeli forces. DCIP expressed its concerns that Palestinian child prisoners are systematically isolated from the outside world and face torture in Israeli prisons.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the current conditions in Israeli prisons, in particular for Palestinian prisoners?
2. Can the Commission rule out the possibility that any EU funding has benefited any Israeli detention facilities, either directly or indirectly?
3. Has the Commission addressed the death of Mr Ahmad, as well as the general detention conditions of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons with the Israeli authorities, if so, how, and with what effects?

Submitted: 30.4.2025

**Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(12 August 2025)**

The EU follows closely reports regarding the conditions of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons and has raised its concerns repeatedly with the Israeli authorities, both publicly and privately.

In the EU's position for the 13th EU-Israel Association Council ⁽¹⁾, the EU called on Israel to fully comply with its international human rights obligations including in the context of arrest, interrogation and detention, and recalled that states have a heightened duty of care to take any necessary measures to protect the lives of individuals deprived of their liberty.

The EU addressed the specific situation of minors, calling on Israel to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all Palestinian minors, especially those faced with arrest and detention, in line with its obligations under international law, specifically the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, and standards regarding the detention of children, including in cases of security offences, and ending the practice of administrative detention.

The EU also expressed its concern about the recourse by Israel to indiscriminate arrests and administrative detention without formal charge.

EU funding does not directly nor indirectly benefit Israeli detention facilities. EU funding is subject to strict rules and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that it is used exclusively for the purposes intended and in line with EU values and international law.

Where relevant, the Commission applies robust due diligence procedures, including clauses in contracts and grant agreements to prevent the diversion of funds. Should credible information to the contrary arise, the Commission investigates thoroughly and takes appropriate measures.

¹ https://www.dci-palestine.org/17_year_old_palestinian_child_prisoner_starved_to_death_by_israeli_prison_guards.
(¹) <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6511-2025-INIT/en/pdf>.