

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003544/25
to the Council
João Oliveira (The Left)
(15 September 2025)**

Subject: Possible humanitarian evacuations from the Gaza Strip and activation of the Temporary Protection Directive

For more than 689 days now 2 million people have faced death, suffering, deprivation, destruction, unhealthy and undignified living conditions, insecurity, loss, physical and emotional pain and exhaustion in Israel's campaign of brutality in the Gaza Strip, which continues with impunity. Indiscriminate Israeli military attacks have caused more than 218 000 deaths, injuries and disappearances among the Palestinian population.

The situation on the ground is worsening by the day, particularly as a result of the inhumane and cruel blockade that Israel tightened after violating the ceasefire in March, which is starving Palestinians to death.

Several informal groups in various countries are in direct contact with hundreds of families in the Gaza Strip who are witnessing the horror into which their lives have been plunged by Israel's genocidal actions.

Many have voluntarily expressed their willingness to leave the territory given the desperate state of affairs.

It is common knowledge that countries such as France, Italy, Spain, Albania and Romania have evacuated hundreds of people, either for health and educational purposes or strictly humanitarian reasons.

In light of the above, can the Council say:

1. Whether it has data on the countries that have evacuated Palestinians from the Gaza Strip and the numbers involved?
2. Whether it is considering invoking the Temporary Protection Directive to facilitate these evacuations?

Submitted: 15.9.2025

**Reply
(28 January 2026)**

The Council receives data from the Commission regarding evacuations of Palestinians from the Gaza Strip for medical reasons. The data concerns the number of Palestinian patients and their companions who have been evacuated from Gaza with the support of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) to EU Member States and UCPM Participating States, in response to the request for support by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in April 2024.

In addition, the European Union Border Assistance Mission to the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah), which was temporarily deployed to the Rafah Crossing Point (RCP) as part of the January 2025 ceasefire deal, facilitated the safe transit of 4 176 individuals, including 1 683 medical patients and their relatives, between 1 February and 17 March 2025, in close cooperation with the Palestinian General Authority for Borders and Crossings (GABC).

Following the agreement reached on the first phase of the Comprehensive Plan to end the Gaza Conflict, the EU will contribute to peace efforts and to actively engage with partners on the next steps, including by making full use of EUBAM Rafah.

In order to activate the Temporary Protection Directive, it is necessary to determine that a mass influx of displaced persons is occurring, especially if it risks overwhelming the asylum systems of Member States.

In the absence of a proposal by the Commission for a Council Decision establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons, the Council has not discussed this question.
