

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000003/26
to the Commission**

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(5 January 2026)

Subject: EU financial assistance for the Palestinian Authority

Following the July 2024 Letter of Intent between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the European Commission, the Commission repeatedly stated that the EU's financial assistance for the PA would be linked to verifiable progress made in education reform, including the revision of textbooks to align them fully with Unesco standards, with grade 12 to be reformed by the end of 2024 and grades 1-4 by September 2025.

However, in recent replies ⁽¹⁾ to written questions the Commission has referred generally to the PA's 'continuous' internal review processes, without specifying whether the PA has met these specific date-bound commitments. Independent assessments indicate that newly issued PA textbooks and the online Gaza curriculum replicate the same content previously identified as problematic.

1. Has the Commission formally revised or replaced the original reform benchmarks contained in the July 2024 Letter of Intent ⁽²⁾? If so, what new benchmarks has it adopted and on what grounds?
2. What specific documentary evidence of textbook reform ⁽³⁾ has the Commission received since July 2024, and how does this confirm progress made toward Unesco-aligned reform?
3. In cases where the PA's new textbooks or abridged Gaza curriculum are found to reproduce unreformed content, what are the consequences under the conditionality framework, and will the Commission suspend or adjust future disbursements until verifiable reform is demonstrated?

Submitted: 5.1.2026

Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(8 April 2026)

In the Letter of Intent between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Commission dated July 2024 ⁽¹⁾, the PA committed to undertake substantial and credible reforms including for the education sector, with a focus on improving the quality of the education system that encompasses the development of educational materials and high-quality teaching and learning.

The annex to the Letter of Intent listed the adoption by the PA of an action plan to improve quality education as key progress indicator by the end of August 2024. The said action plan was adopted in mid-August.

In the following months, the PA developed, in coordination with the EU, a Joint EU-PA Reform Matrix that included a sequencing of clear benchmarks, as the basis for disbursements under the Multiannual and Comprehensive Support Programme for recovery and resilience for 2025-2027.

The Reform Matrix agreed by the PA and the EU in November 2024 included milestones focusing on the education reform. These milestones complement and upgrade the benchmarks contained in the Letter of Intent.

The PA President, at the UN General Assembly in September 2025, reiterated the commitment to fully transition to learning materials aligned to UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) standards within the next two years.

The PA has made initial revisions to grade 12 and more comprehensive revisions to grades one to four to align with Unesco standards.

Revised learning material in the format of 'educational packages' has been published on the Palestinian Ministry of Education website in December 2024 and October 2025 respectively.

Substantial changes in the curriculum for grades one to four have been noted and revisions are currently being assessed by experts contracted by the Commission.

¹ E-001465/2025 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001465_EN.html) and E-003064/2025 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-003064_EN.html).

² E.g. reform deadlines for grade 12 and grades 1-4.

³ E.g. revised textbooks and independent verification.

⁽¹⁾ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/letter-intent-between-palestinian-authority-and-european-commission_en.

The EU remains engaged with the PA on curriculum and broader education sector reform and EU disbursements are linked to the PA's achievement of key reforms identified in the Reform Matrix.
