

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001406/26
to the Commission**

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(8 April 2026)

Subject: EU response to Knesset legislation on death penalty

We are writing regarding the Knesset's adoption of the Death Penalty Bill.

We note the statement of 31 March 2026 by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on behalf of the EU about the Knesset's approval of the Death Penalty Bill. However, following the law's final adoption, we believe that Parliament is entitled to clarity on the concrete steps the Commission and the European External Action Service now intend to take to uphold EU values in relations with Israel.

1. In the light of the bill's adoption and the 2025 review finding indications of a breach of Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, will the Commission activate concrete follow-up measures, such as those presented during the 2025 State of the Union address?
2. When will the Commission propose a ban on the import of settlement goods into the EU?
3. Will the Commission present to Parliament, in the next three months, its assessment of whether the current framework governing EU-Israel relations remains fit for purpose?

We, Members of the European Parliament, stress that the EU must make clear that this law must not be implemented and that any move towards implementation must trigger serious consequences for EU-Israel relations.

Submitted: 8.4.2026

**Question for written answer E-001531/26
to the Commission
Sirpa Pietikäinen (PPE)**
(15 April 2026)

Subject: Repeated human rights violations by Israel

Time and again, Israel has flouted international human rights agreements, for example by introducing the death penalty for Palestinian prisoners. What is more, the crisis facing the Palestinians will deepen as Israel continues its actions in breach of international law in both Gaza and the West Bank.

What steps does the Commission intend to take in response to this situation?

Submitted: 15.4.2026

Joint answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(8 June 2026)

The EU has a principled position against the death penalty in all cases and in all circumstances. Israel had long upheld a de facto moratorium on both executions and capital punishment sentencing.

The approval of the Death Penalty Bill by the Israeli Parliament marks a grave regression from that practice and from Israel's own commitments.

The EU is deeply concerned about the de facto discriminatory character of the Bill. The EU has urged Israel ⁽¹⁾, both privately and publicly, to abide by its previous principled position and with its obligations under international law, as well as its commitment to democratic principles, as reflected also in the provisions of the EU-Israel Association Agreement ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/03/31/israel-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-the-approval-of-the-death-penalty-bill-by-the-israeli-parliament/>.

⁽²⁾ https://eeas.europa.eu/archives/delegations/israel/documents/eu_israel/asso_agree_en.pdf.

In September 2025, following the review of Israel's obligations under Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, the President of the Commission proposed a package of measures during the State of the Union address ⁽³⁾.

The Commission has also put on hold its bilateral support to Israel, except to civil society and Yad Vashem. Discussions continue in the Council on measures requiring the approval of Member States.

In its relations with Israel, the EU considers that political engagement and frank and open dialogue are the most effective ways to convey EU concerns.

The Association Agreement with Israel is the legal basis of the EU's ongoing dialogue with the Israeli authorities and it provides mechanisms to discuss issues and advance the EU's point of view.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_2053.