

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001972/26
to the Commission
Anna Maria Cisint (PFE)
(12 May 2026)**

Subject: Members' possible political and financial ties to Hamas-linked associations that are under investigation for international terrorism

The recent visit by a Member to Rossano Calabro prison to see one of the individuals arrested as part of the investigation into Mohammad Hannoun raises serious political and institutional concerns.

According to press reports ⁽¹⁾, this investigation concerns networks accused of raising funds in Italy destined, directly or indirectly, for Hamas. This affair forms part of a broader picture in which figures on the European radical left and circles linked to Islamic extremists are showing signs of increasing political and ideological affinity. There is a risk that those ties could also find a foothold within the EU institutions themselves.

As the Member is part of the Left Group, light must be shed on the nature of any of their political, organisational or financial links with individuals or organisations involved in the aforementioned investigations.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of any financial or other ties linking EU-based associations that are close to Hamas with individuals connected to representatives of the EU institutions?
2. Will it push for checks or initiatives with a view to ensuring full transparency in relations between Members and organisations under investigation for international terrorism?

Submitted: 12.5.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(13 August 2026)**

The EU position on Hamas has been very clear and consistent. The EU condemns in the strongest terms Hamas and its brutal and indiscriminate terrorist attacks across Israel and deeply deplores the loss of lives.

Hamas has been listed on the EU terrorist list since 2003 ⁽¹⁾. In 2024, the EU established a framework of restrictive measures dedicated to Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad ⁽²⁾. The EU also recently adopted the third package of listings against Hamas ⁽³⁾.

According to Council Regulation (EC) 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism (CR2580) ⁽⁴⁾, the making available of funds to listed groups, including by EU officials or institutions to Hamas, directly or indirectly, is prohibited.

All Commission grantees must uphold fundamental EU values ⁽⁵⁾ and all contracts involving EU funding worldwide contain provisions that no funds are made available to any listed group.

According to CR2580, Member States shall lay down the rules on penalties, including criminal penalties, applicable to infringements of the provisions of that regulation and shall take all measures necessary to ensure that they are implemented ⁽⁶⁾.

Any assessment of possible criminal conduct or alleged links with entities under investigation falls within the competence of the relevant national judicial and law-enforcement authorities of the Member States.

¹ <https://www.ilgiornale.it/news/politica/lucano-visita-carcere-limam-col-kalashnikov-2662961.html>.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32003E0651>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32024D0385>.

⁽³⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/05/28/hamas-and-the-palestinian-islamic-jihad-council-expands-the-legal-framework-and-adds-ten-individuals-to-the-sanctions-list/pdf/>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32001R2580>.

⁽⁵⁾ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/guidelines_for_grant_applicant_.pdf.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02001R2580-20260227>.

The Commission will continue to ensure the full application of EU restrictive measures and funding safeguards within its remit, while rules on ethics and transparency applicable to Members of the European Parliament are governed by the European Parliament's own framework.
