

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002805/26
to the Commission**

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(7 July 2026)

Subject: Transparency regarding EU-funded infrastructure destroyed in Gaza

On 19 June 2026, EUObserver reported ⁽¹⁾ that Israel had bombed and bulldozed at least EUR 150 million worth of EU-funded infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza without ever paying back any of the money. On 25 June 2026, the journalist who carried out that investigation reported ⁽²⁾ that the Commission refused to release documents relating to Israel's destruction of EU-funded infrastructure in Gaza, stating that there was no overriding public interest in doing so.

The infrastructure that the EU has funded and that Israel has destroyed was paid for by European taxpayers. European citizens have a right to know when a third country wilfully destroys the infrastructure they have paid for. There is clearly an overriding public interest with regard to transparency and to the responsibility of Israel for the destruction of civilian infrastructure.

Will the Commission:

1. release all documents relating to the destruction of EU-funded infrastructure in Gaza and the West Bank?
2. ensure that journalists and the public have full access to information regarding the destruction of EU-funded infrastructure and that an accessible public record of such information is kept?
3. recover the funds by deducting them from sources of EU funding enjoyed by Israel?

Submitted: 7.7.2026

Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(4 September 2026)

The Commission remains committed to ensure the widest possible transparency in access to documents, based on the relevant EU Regulation No 1049/2001 ⁽¹⁾ and subject to the exceptions provided therein.

On 18 December 2025, the Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank and Gaza Strip, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)) released the report 'One Year Report on Demolitions and Seizures in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem' ⁽²⁾.

Between 2015 and 2024, Israeli authorities demolished or seized 1 010 EU-funded structures, representing cumulative humanitarian investment losses of EUR 3 279 883.

The 2025 report will be released later in 2026 ⁽³⁾. As for the assessment of damages on EU-funded infrastructures in Gaza, a realistic estimation can only take place once hostilities have fully ceased and full access is granted.

¹ <https://euobserver.com/222661/israel-has-bombed-and-bulldozed-e150m-of-eu-funded-buildings-in-gaza-and-west-bank-but-never-paid-back-a-cent/>.

² <https://euobserver.com/224203/eu-commission-says-there-is-no-public-interest-in-gaza-the-same-day-the-un-rights-office-describes-it-as-a-genocide/>.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, Official Journal L 145 of 31 May 2001, p. 43.

⁽²⁾ In 2024, 83 EU-funded structures were demolished or seized, representing EUR 377 784 in financial losses. These included residential and livelihood facilities essential for Palestinian community survival, and an EU development cooperation project in Nablus Governorate: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025/documents/PALESTINE%20EU_annual%20demolitions%20report%201%20January%20%E2%80%93%2031%20December%202024%20-%20Ares\(2025\)11345216.pdf](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025/documents/PALESTINE%20EU_annual%20demolitions%20report%201%20January%20%E2%80%93%2031%20December%202024%20-%20Ares(2025)11345216.pdf).

⁽³⁾ In 2025, the Israeli authorities demolished an EU-France funded elementary school in Tubas Governorate — the demolition represented EUR 120 000 in damages. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/statement-spokesperson-israeli-demolitions-and-settlement-policy-occupied-west-bank-including-east_en?s=200.

As mentioned in written reply to the questions E-000683/2026 ⁽⁴⁾ and P-001334/2026 ⁽⁵⁾, the EU has requested Israel to return or compensate for EU-funded assets on every occasion that it demolished, dismantled or confiscated such assets, in accordance with the principles of international law and sound financial management of EU public funds, including via joint letters addressed to Israeli authorities and co-signed by representatives of EU institutions, concerned Member States and other donors.

⁽⁴⁾ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2026-000683-ASW_EN.html.
⁽⁵⁾ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2026-001334-ASW_EN.html.