

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002925/26
to the Commission**

Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left), Vicent Marzà Ibáñez (Verts/ALE), Catarina Vieira (Verts/ALE), Méliissa Camara (Verts/ALE), Rudi Kennes (The Left), Sandro Ruotolo (S&D), Birgit Sippel (S&D), Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle (Renew), Leila Chaibi (The Left), Mounir Satouri (Verts/ALE), Cecilia Strada (S&D), Hana Jalloul Muro (S&D), César Luena (S&D), Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE), Jaume Asens Llodrà (Verts/ALE), Vladimir Prebilič (Verts/ALE), Irena Joveva (Renew), Mimmo Lucano (The Left), Kim Van Sparrentak (Verts/ALE), Marc Botenga (The Left), Thijs Reuten (S&D), Majdouline Sbai (Verts/ALE), Pernando Barrena Arza (The Left), Annalisa Corrado (S&D)
(14 July 2026)

Subject: State of play of negotiations on the agreement on the exchange of personal data between Europol and Israel

Negotiations on the agreement on the exchange of personal data between Europol and Israel were launched in 2018, while a draft text was finalised only in September 2022. In November 2022, the Council Legal Service reportedly identified provisions incompatible with EU and international law, notably a territorial derogation concerning areas occupied since 5 June 1967. Despite indications that negotiations had stalled, and in the context of the war against Gaza, the Commission continued meetings with Israeli counterparts throughout 2023, 2024, 2025 and in early 2026, while declining to disclose their substance. The last update provided to the European Parliament took place in December 2022.

In this context, can the Commission answer:

1. What is the current state of negotiations, and what outstanding issues remain unresolved?
2. Has the Commission maintained, amended, or withdrawn the territorial derogation criticised by the Council Legal Service, and how does it ensure full compliance with EU and international law?
3. How does the Commission ensure that any future agreement with Israel prevents the transfer or use of personal data obtained through human rights violations, or the risk that such transfers contribute to human rights violations?

Submitted: 14.7.2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(1 September 2026)

A key requirement for the EU is to ensure that any future agreement with Israel respects the EU's consolidated position on territorial application.

As recalled by the Commission at the meeting of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs on 5 December 2022, following concerns identified in relation to the territorial application provisions of the draft agreement on the exchange of personal data between the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and Israel, the Commission informed Israel of the need to continue negotiations with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable solution on this point. Since then, no further rounds of negotiations have taken place, nor are they planned at this stage.

For the EU, it remains essential that any future agreement fully respects the EU's position on territorial application and is fully consistent with EU and international law.

The Commission attaches particular importance to ensuring that any future agreement governing exchanges of personal data with third countries contains appropriate safeguards and guarantees as regards data protection, fundamental rights, and international law obligations.
