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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.9.2025)

The EU has reacted resolutely to the decision of the United States to refuse or revoke entry visas for members of the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organisation ahead of their participation in the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in New York. Through a statement delivered by the High Representative/Vice-President (HR/VP) on behalf of the EU on 30 August 2025¹, the EU urged that this decision be reconsidered, in light of the UN Headquarters Agreement between the UN and its host state.

The UN recognises the State of Palestine as a non-member observer state, and since 1974 the Palestine Liberation Organisation has been entitled to participate in the General Assembly upon invitation. In line with established practice, their officials must be permitted access to UN Headquarters. Full participation of all delegations is essential, as set out under Section 11 of the Headquarters Agreement².

The EU reiterated its position during the dedicated UN's Host Country Committee session on 12 September 2025, when EU Ambassador made a statement on behalf of the EU and its Member States, supporting the position of the UN Legal Counsel, and recalling the HR/VP's statement on behalf of the EU from 30 August 2025. The EU will continue to follow this matter closely in all relevant fora. Dialogue conducted in good faith, with full respect for international law, remains the most effective way to ensure Palestine's voice is heard at the UN.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/08/30/palestine-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union/>.

² <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/Volume%2011/volume-11-I-147-English.pdf>.