

(English version)

Priority question for written answer P-004321/25

**to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Lynn Boylan (The Left), Brando Benifei (S&D), Kathleen Funchion (The Left), Catarina Vieira (Verts/ALE), Evin Incir
(S&D), Matjaž Nemec (S&D), Daniel Attard (S&D), Irena Joveva (Renew), Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE), Catarina
Martins (The Left), Marc Botenga (The Left), Benedetta Scuderi (Verts/ALE), Hana Jalloul Muro (S&D), Rima Hassan
(The Left), César Luena (S&D), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Hanna Gedin (The Left), Per Clausen (The Left),
Thomas Bajada (S&D)
(4 November 2025)**

Subject: International Court of Justice advisory opinion of October 2025 and EU action on implementation

On 22 October 2025, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an Advisory Opinion ⁽¹⁾ ruling that Israel is in breach of international law by blocking aid, particularly Article 59 of the Fourth Geneva Convention ⁽²⁾ and is under an obligation to provide adequate aid to Palestinians in the illegally Occupied Territories. The advisory opinion also outlined that Israel is under an obligation to facilitate relief schemes under the auspices of the United Nations, including through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees. Therefore it is clear that under international law, Israel is not currently meeting its obligations as outlined by the ICJ. Furthermore, the continuance in force of the Knesset legislation and the new NGO registration process is a breach of the international law obligations outlined by the ICJ. This means that Israel continues to be in breach of Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. ⁽³⁾

Therefore:

1. Will the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) ensure that the partial suspension of preferences under the Association Agreement is not withdrawn from Council?
2. Will the VP/HR propose sanctions against Israel for its breaches of international law if the Knesset legislation and NGO registration process are not repealed?
3. Will the VP/HR carry out an assessment of the EU's obligations in light of the advisory opinion?

Supporter ⁽⁴⁾

Submitted: 4.11.2025

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(22 December 2025)**

The EU has taken good note of the Advisory Opinion by the International Court of Justice of 22 October 2025 on the Obligations of Israel in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, other international organisations and third States in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Advisory Opinions are non-binding but carry legal authority as the Court interprets obligations of Israel under international law. The EU therefore considers that Israel should comply with the Advisory Opinion in its integrity.

The Advisory Opinion in question does not address obligations of third states and organisations. Nevertheless, the issues at stake are part of an ongoing dialogue. The registration process for international non-governmental organisations is a significant obstacle to humanitarian partners' aim of scaling up their operations in Gaza. The EU continues to engage with the Israeli government on this issue.

In this context, the EU recalls its continued political and financial support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The Commission has disbursed the entirety of the 2025 planned contribution of EUR 82 million.

The package of measures announced by the President of the Commission in the State of the Union 2025 address ⁽¹⁾ to respond to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza are being discussed in the Council.

¹ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/196/196-20251022-adv-01-00-en.pdf>.

² https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf.

³ https://eeas.europa.eu/archives/delegations/israel/documents/eu_israel/asso_agree_en.pdf.

⁴ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Cristina Guarda (Verts/ALE).

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/state-union/state-union-2025_en.