

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-000052/26
to the Commission
Mimmo Lucano (The Left)
(9 January 2026)**

Subject: Demolition order for sports ground in Aida refugee camp (occupied West Bank)

The Israeli authorities have issued a demolition order for a sports ground located in Aida refugee camp, near Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank.

The facility is used mainly by children and young people from the camp and is one of the few accessible community spaces against a backdrop of severe restrictions on freedom of movement and difficult socioeconomic conditions. Demolishing the facility could have a negative impact on the children's well-being and the social cohesion of the local community.

According to the Israeli authorities, the demolition order was issued because the ground was built without a permit. However, as the UN and other international organisations have emphasised on many occasions, there are serious concerns about the impact of the West Bank planning and building permit regime on the Palestinian population and its access to basic civilian infrastructure.

In the light of international humanitarian law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and the EU's human rights commitments, I would ask the Commission:

1. Is it aware of this demolition order and is it monitoring developments?
2. Has it raised the issue with the competent Israeli authorities?
3. What measures will it put in place to help protect Palestinian civilian infrastructure used by children?

Submitted: 9.1.2026

**Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(2 March 2026)**

The EU is aware of the demolition order issued by the Israeli authorities for the sports ground in the Aida refugee camp and is closely monitoring the developments. The EU calls on Israel to halt the demolition and ensure children are not deprived of their right to practice sport and develop in a safe and healthy environment.

The EU has raised and will continue to raise its concerns at the highest level. As noted in the EU's position for the 13th EU-Israel Association Council ⁽¹⁾, 'the EU calls on Israel to halt continued settlement expansion and related activities, including state land declarations as well as evictions, demolitions, confiscation and forced transfers'.

The EU also urges Israel to respect its obligations under international law in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, that Israel ratified in 1991 ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6511-2025-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁽²⁾ https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4.