

FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**Select only one addressee:**

PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL



COUNCIL



VICE-PRESIDENT / HIGH REPRESENTATIVE



COMMISSION



Priority question



AUTHOR(S): Ana Gomes

SUBJECT: Human rights ahead of the upcoming EU-Israel Association Council
(please specify)

TEXT:

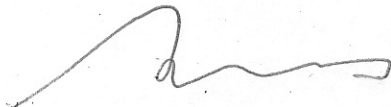
In May 2016, the United Nations Committee against Torture issued its concluding observations on the fifth periodic review of Israel. The Committee's findings reveal the systematic and widespread use of torture and ill-treatment in Israeli prisons and detention facilities.

Indeed, several Israeli and Palestinian human rights organisations have documented serious violations of the prohibition of torture and numerous cases of ill-treatment which are often applied as a matter of interrogation policy by the Israeli military, police forces, prison service and the Israeli Security Agency. In its 2015 Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights, the EU committed to support UN human rights treaty-based mechanisms and to promote the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment with all its partners.

In light of these commitments and the UN Committee's recent recommendations:

1. Will the EU raise concern about torture and ill-treatment in the next EU-Israel Association Council?
2. What steps will the High Representative/Vice-President take to ensure that respect for human rights and democratic values, in particular freedom from torture and ill-treatment, remains at the heart of its bilateral relations with Israel?

Signature(s):



Date: 09/11/2016