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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Mogherini
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The EU is strongly opposed to Israel's settlement policy, which it considers illegal under international law; it constitutes an obstacle to peace and threatens to make the two-state solution impossible.

This position was clearly reiterated in the Council conclusions on the Middle East Peace Process following the meeting of EU Foreign Ministers in January 2016.

The EU has issued specific public statements in relation to settlements at many occasions, such as for instance on 6 February 2016. The EU does however not react publicly at every occasion. Settlement expansion includes many different steps. The issue which is referred to cannot strictly speaking be considered an approval of new housing units, but a further step in the implementation of an existing plan.

The EU is following all these developments closely, and they are raised regularly in contacts with Israeli authorities.