

**Priority question for written answer  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: UNRWA Funding, Conditions, and the Future of Humanitarian Aid to Palestinians in Gaza and the Region:

The High Representative/Vice-President, Josep Borrell, has affirmed that the EU has not suspended funding to UNRWA<sup>1</sup>. In its statement<sup>2</sup>, the Commission outlined three conditions that UNRWA is expected to fulfil. The Commission specified that no further funding to UNRWA is anticipated until the end of February, when the EU's annual contribution is planned. Considering that UNRWA may encounter difficulties sustaining full operational capacity after the end of February, unless certain donors restart payments following their temporary suspension of funds to UNRWA:

- 1 Can European Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi verify the imminent disbursement of the European Commission's annual contribution of €82 million to UNRWA at the end of February, contingent upon UNRWA's commitment to the specified conditions set forth by the Commission?
- 2 Has the European Commission, given the EU's status as the third-largest contributor to UNRWA, conducted an evaluation of the humanitarian and regional ramifications that might arise from a potential cessation of funding to the agency?
- 3 In the event of a delayed disbursement of funds, what strategy does the European Commission have in place to uphold its commitment to supporting the provision of essential services and humanitarian aid to Palestinians in Gaza and in the surrounding region?

**Supporters<sup>3</sup>**

Submitted: 20.2.2024

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/defunding-unrwa-would-be-both-disproportionate-and-dangerous\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/defunding-unrwa-would-be-both-disproportionate-and-dangerous_en)

<sup>2</sup> [https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/european-commission-statement-unrwa-2024-01-29\\_en](https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/european-commission-statement-unrwa-2024-01-29_en)

<sup>3</sup> This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Nikolaj Villumsen (The Left), Nacho Sánchez Amor (S&D)