

**Question for written answer E-015896/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: European citizen illegally prevented from leaving the Gaza Strip

The Spanish – and hence European – citizen Jaldía Abubakra Aueda has been trapped against her will in the Gaza Strip since 18 August 2015. The de facto situation amounts to an open-air prison. Her attempts to regain her freedom have been continually frustrated by the Israeli authorities.

The citizen concerned was standing as a candidate for the Senate in the Spanish elections held on 20 December 2015. The fact that she has been prevented from leaving Gaza has also prevented her from taking part in the election campaign, and this has restricted the democratic choices available to Spanish citizens.

1. What action has the Commission taken to date in order to secure the release of Jaldía Abubakra, who has been illegally prevented from leaving Gaza?
2. Does the Commission have real and effective authority to uphold the rights of European citizens outside EU borders, or does it have absolutely no power to act?
3. Are there any indications that the fact that Jaldía Abubakra has been prevented from leaving Gaza is linked to her membership of the political party Izquierda Unida-Unidad Popular?