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The President

Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association
Al-Haq
Bisan Center for Research and Development
Stop the Wall Campaign
The Jerusalem Human Rights Consortium
The Palestine Institute for Public Diplomacy
Union of Agricultural Workers Committee (UAWC)

By email

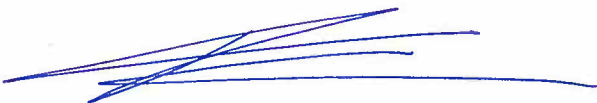
Dear signatories,

Thank you for passing your concerns in your Open Letter dated 25 May 2022.

I very much share your regret over the decision by the Israeli authorities to deny entry to Israel to Mr Manu Pineda, elected Member of the European Parliament and elected Chair of its standing Delegation for relations with Palestine. I immediately and publicly expressed my disappointment with the decision of the Israeli authorities. I am a strong believer in the power of dialogue as a driver for positive change. This is why and with the backing of the European Parliament's political groups, I decided to visit Israel on 22-24 May and use this opportunity to express my disapproval to the highest Israeli authorities. As I underlined in my speech in the Knesset; "The ties between our peoples are deep and the strength of our bond with Israel lies in its openness, honesty, straightforwardness and even criticism".

During this visit, it was also important to me to meet with Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas. I wanted to bring a message of hope and peace. The Middle East Peace Process remains a key priority for the European Union. Let me reiterate that the European Parliament firmly supports the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as the capital of both states, with the secure State of Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous and viable Palestinian State living side by side in peace and safety.

Yours sincerely,



Roberta Metsola