

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Commissioner Ferrero Waldner
DG External Relations
The European Commission
200 Rue de la Loi
Brussels B1049
Belgium

December 18th 2007

Dear Commissioner,

The primary school at Upper Fasayil in the Jordan Valley of occupied Palestine has 115 pupils. It was built without a permit because construction is essentially banned in the area - the Israeli occupying forces have issued not one building permit since 1967. According to Amnesty International, Israeli army legal adviser Colonel Shlomo Politus told the Constitution, Justice and Law Committee of the Israeli Parliament in 2003 that "practically speaking, [building by Palestinians in the Jordan Valley region of the West Bank] doesn't exist as an issue. There are no more construction permits for Palestinians."

Now, the school faces demolition because it has been ruled as an illegal structure. So I have joined forces with the Brighton-Tubas friendship and solidarity group in my constituency and campaigners from around the world to call on the Israeli authorities to allow Fasayil primary school to remain standing. I am writing to you in the hope that the EU will add its voice to those requesting that the school be saved.

Military restrictions imposed by the Israeli authorities make accessing education a challenge for many Palestinians and this school is one attempt by the local community to offer hope and a future to their young people. Please raise this with the Israeli authorities ahead of the military meeting on December 29th 2007 at which the school's fate will be decided.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.