

11 September 2013

To: The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the European Union

Cc: Mr José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission  
Ms Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and  
Vice-President of the European Commission

**Subject: Israeli petition supporting EU guidelines on funding of Israeli entities**

Dear Foreign Minister,

Please find herewith a petition signed by Israeli intellectuals, senior academics and leading artists in support of the European Union guidelines that exclude funding of Israeli entities active in the occupied territories.

Signatories of the petition include seven Israel Prize laureates (Dani Karavan, Alex Levac, David Tartakover, Shimon Sandbank, Zeev Sternhell, Yehoshua Kolodny and David Harel), as well as playwright Yehoshua Sobol, former Director-General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry Alon Liel and former Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair.

We regard the adoption of the EU guidelines as an act of friendship and support to the State of Israel in its internationally recognised borders. We believe that this decision will contribute to the strengthening of relations between Israel and Europe.

We are concerned by the recent calls on the European Union to postpone or weaken the guidelines. Contrary to those calls, we are convinced that the full implementation of the guidelines will increase the chances that the peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority actually lead to a successful outcome, a two-state agreement and an end to the occupation. It is the expansion of settlements, not the EU guidelines, which threaten to make a peace agreement impossible.

Our government has threatened to end its participation in the EU's research programme – a move that would be, in the first place, to Israel's own great detriment. We urge the EU not to be misled by this tactical manoeuvre, and to insist on full application of the guidelines when negotiating Israel's participation in that programme.

We also hope that the principles of the guidelines will be implemented as soon as possible by all European states in their own agreements with Israel.

Yours sincerely,

**Prof. Alon Harel**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Prof. Menachem Klein**, Bar-Ilan University

**Miki Kratsman**, Head of Photography Department of Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in Jerusalem. Recipient Emet prize in 2010

**Alex Levac**, Recipient of the Israel Prize in 2005

**Mossi Raz**, Former Meretz Parliament Member

**David Tartakover**, Graphic designer and artist. Recipient of the Israel Prize in 2002