

Answers to Questions from Councillors Federica Violi and Mohamed Khalil regarding Follow-up Questions CM 23/09 (agenda item 04.02 Follow up committee of sensitive collaborations).

Submitted on October 27th 2025.

Answered on 19th of November 2025.

1. Has or will the university conduct(ed) a comprehensive audit of all third-party institutional collaborations including those with Dutch and European HEIs and private sector partners to assess potential complicity in or support of violations of international law in Palestine, regarding particularly (albeit not limited to) arms trade, surveillance technology, or institutional support for occupation?

a. If not, why not? And if so, will those findings be made public?

This is not currently under consideration, as the broad scope of such an audit would require considerable resource(s) from (a) department(s) and/or employee(s) within EUR which, based on current knowledge, would not be justified by the potential findings. More importantly, third parties involved in this matter are (or may be) making their own assessment(s), and we have not received any indications that would call such (an) assessment(s) into question.

2. The EB mentioned that the ACSC is going to investigate EUR collaborations with institutions in the Middle east, we would like to ask for a clarification on what was specifically meant by the Middle East and why specifically these countries?

For now, the specific countries are yet to be determined, as the general consensus is that with the term Middle East, no specific countries have been appointed officially as being part of it. As a general rule of thumb, countries in Southwest Asia and part of North Africa are usually part of the term. This region has been appointed as being the subject of (a) future investigation(s), due to their direct geographical relevance to the initial advise requested to the ACSC.

a. Furthermore, was it an initiative from the BE or the commission itself?

Based on the relevance of this region, the initiative was the result of a joint analysis on follow-up actions following the initial advice by the Executive Board and the ASCS.

3. Has EUR assessed its own financial investments (broadly speaking, including equities and bonds) – if any – , to verify whether its money is invested in problematic funds/projects?

As EUR does not have or perform this type of investment, this is not applicable. Our financial investments relate to our share (as we are 100% shareholder) in the equity of our related parties, which are Erasmus Holding BV and Erasmus Enterprise.

If not, will the CvB commit to subject all financial investments connected to EUR in any fund (including pensions and other endowments) to transparent human rights screening? Will the CvB commit to pressuring ABP to divest from companies involved in human rights violations?

This is currently not a commitment, in line with the analogy provided in the first answer: parties related to EUR in this matter are (or may be) making their own assessment(s), and we have not received any indications that would call such assessments into question.

4. Can you give us a concrete and detailed update on the implementation of the latest advice of the ACSC in relation to the suspension of cooperation with the first three universities assessed by the Committee?

A statement by the Executive Board has been published on intranet (MyEUR) to all internal stakeholders, as well as a notification per email, to make sure the entire community was updated on the matter. We continuously monitor and discuss the situation internally to assess whether the suspension of cooperation will be continued or must be (partially) reversed.

The decision was implemented as agreed. Specifically, there were a few exchange projects going on and a participation in a EU Horizon project. The exchange projects were already coming to an end in the summer of 2025 and there were no plans to extend them. The exchange students were able to complete their courses and no one was sent home early. Participation in the Horizon project is still ongoing. Concluded, there was no discontinuity.

As also included in the statement, individual collaborations are still possible, but not at the institutional level.

a. Is the CvB considering to adopt further measures beyond suspension of cooperations?

We continuously monitor and discuss the situation to assess whether further measures should be considered or must be adopted.

5. What is the status of the collective actions taken by Dutch universities on the matter, including the status of the conversation with relevant public authorities, e.g. Dutch Ministries and European Commission?

Together with all Dutch universities through UNL, relevant Dutch Ministries and the European Commission, the situation is continuously being monitored and discussed to

assess the need for collective action. There is currently no indication that collective action(s) will be taken in the short term.