

Question for written answer E-002792/2024

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

Fredis Beleris (PPE), Vangelis Meimarakis (PPE)

Subject: Greek and Christian communities suffering in Aleppo

According to the latest reports, the Syrian Government has lost control of the city of Aleppo to Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, an organisation under the heel of the former Syrian arm of Al-Qaeda and Syrian rebel organisations. This development is yet another tragic consequence of the conflicts that have taken place in Syria in recent years. In addition to the geopolitical instability and physical destruction this war has brought to the region, its most significant impact has been the loss of human life. The war is affecting the region's Christian communities, which include citizens of EU Member States, such as Greece. There are 50 Greek expatriate families in Aleppo, while the number of Christians is estimated at over 20 000. While the Greek state and the United Nations are standing by to support them, we are waiting for the EU to clarify its role in managing this crisis.

In light of the above, I would like to ask the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy the following:

1. How does she intend to support Member States' efforts to safely evacuate these communities from conflict zones?
2. What action will she take to prevent the further expansion of jihadist groups and the creation of a new Islamic State in the Levant region?

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