

**Question for written answer E-003741/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Gerolf Annemans (Pfe)

Subject: The Commission's rapidly changing and disturbing attitude towards the new Syrian regime led by President al-Sharaa

On 23 September 2025, Commission President von der Leyen met with Syrian President al-Sharaa, after which she publicly stated that the EU is committed to a ‘genuine, inclusive, peaceful and Syrian-led transition, free from harmful foreign interference’. This statement raises some fundamental questions.

1. During this meeting, did the President explicitly raise the situation of religious and ethnic minorities in Syria, in particular with regard to their safety, political participation and equal rights in the context of the so-called transition?
2. The President states that the Syrian transition must be ‘free from harmful foreign interference’. Does this imply that the EU and its institutions will also refrain from any cooperation or institutional rapprochement that could give President al-Sharaa's regime political legitimacy, or does it mean, on the contrary, that billions in EU aid will once again flow to Syria?
3. In that case, what confidence-building measures has President al-Sharaa's regime put in place to commit to supporting Syria's socio-economic recovery and reconstruction?

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