

**Priority question for written answer P-001149/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Escalation of violence against Christian minorities in Syria and the need for EU intervention

In recent days, Syria has witnessed a dramatic escalation of violence, particularly in Tartus and Latakia, traditional strongholds of Bashar al-Assad. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reports that the new Syrian regime's forces have launched a harsh offensive in these areas, resulting in over 800 deaths, with numerous civilians, women and children among the victims.

Particularly alarming are the targeted attacks against the Christian community. Testimonies report the killing of a Greek Orthodox priest and entire Christian families in their homes. The patriarchs of the Christian churches in Syria are denouncing a 'dangerous escalation of violence, torture and killings' against innocent civilians.

The leader of the new Syrian regime, Ahmed al-Sharaa, pledged to protect Christian minorities as recently as January 2025. However, the recent wave of violence casts doubt on his actual willingness and ability to uphold these commitments.

We therefore ask the Commission:

1. What immediate measures does the Commission intend to take to protect Christian communities and other minorities in Syria?
2. How will the Commission ensure that EU aid effectively reaches the affected communities?
3. How does the Commission assess the actions of the new Syrian regime and its leader, Ahmed al-Sharaa, with respect to persecuted minorities?

Supporter¹

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