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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.2.2025)

In line with the EU strategy for Syria (2017)¹ the EU has maintained a principled and pragmatic approach, refraining from normalising relations with the Assad regime.

As part of its continued implementation of the EU strategy for Syria, and with a view to continue to best use the range of EU tools, the European External Action Service and the Commission took note of the proposals by Member States, both in writing and in the context of relevant Council working groups, but also widely consulted implementation partners, the United Nations (UN) family, civil society and other stakeholders.

In the current context, it is essential for the EU to support an inclusive Syrian-owned, Syrian-led transition and to continue to monitor the situation on the ground as well as, in coordination with UN agencies, to continue to evaluate the conditions for safe, dignified, voluntary returns to Syria following the UN High Commissioner for Refugees' guidance, knowing that the situation remains very volatile.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/eu-strategy-for-syria.html?fromSummary=28>