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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.3.2025)

The EU remains firmly committed to combatting terrorism and enforcing the EU restrictive measures framework. In Syria, where the terrorist threat remains, the EU is in contact with interim authorities and local actors, including civil society, to advocate an inclusive, peaceful, Syrian-owned and Syrian-led political transition. These contacts, carefully calibrated, can include members of organisations against whom restrictive measures are adopted by the United Nations Security Council. To revise the justification of these measures is a question for the entire international community.

The EU's autonomous restrictive measures also include humanitarian exceptions to ensure the unimpeded provision of humanitarian aid to people in need.

The EU is closely following and cautiously assessing developments in Syria, in close coordination with Member States and international partners. The EU is attentive to the statements and acts of the new transitional authorities. The EU expects concrete actions that will ensure that all Syrian citizens, from all components of society, are protected and fully included in the transition process. All actors in Syria should ensure the protection and uphold the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Syrians, whether believers or non-believers, based on their equal rights as citizens.