

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001094/25
to the Commission
Virginie Joron (PFE)
(13 March 2025)**

Subject: EU disinformation on the murders of Christians and Alawites in Syria

‘Streets piled with bodies: Syrians report massacres of Alawite and Christian civilians’. ⁽¹⁾ The facts are devastating: reports point to a wave of killings in Syria targeting Alawites and Christians, including ten women and five children. On 10 March 2025, BFMTV reported that 745 civilians, mainly Alawites, had been massacred in the Latakia region between 6 and 8 March 2025 by Syrian regime forces and their allies.

However, in a statement of 8 March 2025, ‘diplomats’ from the European External Action Service (EEAS) completely ignored these ongoing massacres, attributing the attacks to ‘pro-Assad elements’ ⁽²⁾. This is blatant disinformation that damages the EU’s reputation.

1. Can the Commission verify the EEAS statement that the recent attacks on civilians, including Christians and Alawites, are being carried out by ‘pro-Assad elements’ alone, or does it acknowledge that the new regime is involved in the massacres of civilians?
2. Has the Commission urged the interim Syrian Government to put an end to the massacres by government forces or Islamist factions of children, women, civilians and prisoners from the Alawite and Christian communities?
3. How much financial assistance has the new Syrian Government received from the EU since December 2024?

Submitted: 13.3.2025

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(28 April 2025)**

On 11 March 2025, the High Representative/Vice-President issued a statement ⁽¹⁾ on behalf of the EU, which condemned in the strongest terms the horrific crimes committed against civilians, including summary killings, many of which were allegedly perpetrated by armed groups supporting the security forces of the transitional authorities.

The EU called for a swift, transparent and impartial investigation to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. It welcomed the transitional authorities’ commitments, in particular the establishment of an investigative committee.

It further called on the transitional authorities to allow the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate all violations. Everything must be done to prevent any such crimes from happening again.

The EU calls for an end to violence across Syria and urges all parties to protect Syrians from all ethnic and religious background without discrimination.

The EU is in contact with the interim authorities and local actors, including civil society, and consistently advocates for an inclusive, peaceful, Syrian-owned and Syrian-led political transition grounded on the respect of international law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, pluralism and tolerance as well as on the values of rule of law and accountability.

Furthermore, the EU continues to be a staunch supporter of accountability mechanisms working on Syria, including the Impartial and Independent Mechanism, the Commission of Inquiry, and the new Independent Institution on Missing Persons.

Over the past 13 years, the EU and the Member States have mobilised nearly EUR 37 billion in humanitarian, development, economic and stabilisation assistance, supporting Syrians both inside the country and across the region.

¹ https://www.bfmtv.com/international/moyen-orient/syrie/les-rues-pleines-de-cadavres-des-syriens-temoignent-des-massacres-de-civils-alawites-et-chretiens_AV-202503100384.html, <https://www.newsweek.com/hundreds-minorities-including-christians-killed-syria-reports-2041764>, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/mar/09/north-west-syria-un-latakia-assad-regime-loyalists-killings>

² https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/spokesperson-statement-latest-developments-syria_en

⁽¹⁾ Syria: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the recent wave of violence, 11/03/2025. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/03/11/syria-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-the-recent-wave-of-violence/>