

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001182/25
to the Commission
Barbara Bonte (Pfe)
(19 March 2025)**

Subject: EU billions for Ahmed al-Sharaa, a.k.a. Abu Mohammad al-Julani

On 17 March 2025, at the ninth conference on Syria in Brussels, the Commission announced that it would be allocating almost EUR 2.5 billion in 2025 and 2026 for the transition in Syria, which is to be led by the new Syrian regime under the terrorist jihadist Ahmed al-Sharaa, better known as Abu Mohammad al-Julani.

While the Commission still seems to be in a state of euphoria, Abu Mohammad al-Julani has proven himself to be Syria's new butcher. He glossed over the murder of more than a thousand Alawites and Christians, referring to it 'as an expected challenge'.

1. What specific conditions with regard to the protection of religious minorities, and in particular Alawites and Christians, has the Commission imposed on the new Syrian regime in relation to the billions in aid?
2. Does the Commission not consider it necessary to suspend the payment of the billions pledged on 17 March 2025 as long as the violence continues in Syria?
3. What specific monitoring mechanisms is the Commission using to oversee the expenditure of considerable EU funds in Syria?

Submitted: 19.3.2025

**Answer given by Ms Šuica on behalf of the European Commission
(17 June 2025)**

On 11 March 2025, gravely alarmed by the violence in Syria's coastal region, the High Representative/Vice-President issued a statement ⁽¹⁾ strongly condemning the horrific crimes committed against civilians.

The EU called for a swift, transparent and impartial investigation to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. It welcomed the transitional authorities' establishment of an independent investigative committee and called on them to allow the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate all violations.

The EU remains attentive to the actions of the new authorities in ensuring the protection of all Syrians without any kind of discrimination.

The EU continues to call for an end to violence across Syria and urges involved parties to protect all Syrians. The EU supports a peaceful and inclusive Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political transition, upholding the universality and indivisibility of human rights and principles of equality and non-discrimination among all components of society.

The EU Brussels Conference pledges ensure support to Syria and neighbouring countries, that host a considerable number of refugees.

The EU's non-humanitarian assistance is subjected to extensive monitoring/evaluation mechanisms, including third party monitoring and risk assessments.

The EU's approach is gradual and commensurate with steps taken by the transitional government. The EU's assistance follows strict implementation parameters. It aims to foster social cohesion by bringing together all Syrians without discrimination.

The EU's humanitarian aid is delivered through trusted partners in all parts of Syria. It seeks to respond to life-saving emergencies based on needs, accountability to affected populations, transparency, efficiency, effectiveness, and humanitarian principles (humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence) ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <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/>.

⁽²⁾ EU Treaties and the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, see Joint Statement by the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission, OJ C 25, 30.1.2008, p. 1-12, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A42008X0130%2801%29>.