

EN
E-001240/2025
Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.7.2025)

The Commission is committed to help creating the conditions for safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable returns, including through stepping up its support for Syria's socio-economic recovery.

The Commission is supporting Member States with a view to promoting an EU coordinated approach allowing beneficiaries of international protection to benefit from temporary 'go-and-see' visits to Syria, with the aim of facilitating sustainable returns to the country. 'Go and see' visits to Syria are strictly intended to provide Syrian beneficiaries of international protection with an opportunity to make informed decisions about the viability of their possible permanent return to Syria. Some Member States already have a similar practice in place.

Visits to Syria outside the frameworks set up by Member States should be taken into account by the latter when assessing whether the conditions for international protection have ceased in accordance with the Qualification Directive 2011/95/EU¹, taking into account the specific circumstances of the beneficiary and subject to the relevant procedural safeguards as set out in the Asylum Procedures Directive 2013/32/EU².

¹ Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted, OJ L 337, 20.12.2011, p. 9-26, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2011/95/oj>.

² Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection, OJ L 180, 29.6.2013, p. 60-95, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2013/32/oj>.