

EN

E-003741/2025

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.1.2026)

During her meeting with Syria's transitional President in New York, alongside the President of the European Council, the President of the Commission reaffirmed EU's commitment to supporting a peaceful, inclusive, Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political transition. Both presidents expressed concern over the recent widespread sectarian violence in Syria and conveyed the message that transitional authorities have the responsibility to ensure that the transition is genuinely inclusive, protects Syrians from all ethnic and religious backgrounds without discrimination, and guarantees a place for every Syrian in the emerging new Syria.

The EU will also continue to support efforts to hold all perpetrators, regardless of their affiliation, accountable in line with international standards. The EU introduced new listings under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime¹, targeting individuals and entities in Syria responsible for serious human rights abuses. The EU will continue to sanction individuals who commit human rights violations and risk jeopardising the peaceful transition and follow closely developments on the ground and the actions of the transitional authorities.

It is crucial that all external actors respect Syria's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. The EU condemns any unilateral foreign military actions and attempts to undermine Syria's stability and prospects for a peaceful transition.

The EU has welcomed initial steps taken by the transitional authorities such as the National Dialogue Conference held in February 2025, the Constitutional Declaration, and the appointment of a transitional government. The EU also recognised the step forward taken with the formation of the People's Assembly.

The meeting provided an opportunity to reiterate EU's commitment to assist Syria with immediate humanitarian needs and to support its inclusive transition and the socio-economic recovery and reconstruction of the country, in line with recent Council Conclusions². In June 2025, the EU announced a EUR 175 million package to support recovery in Syria³. EU support will be commensurate with developments in the country, including the expected reforms by the transitional authorities.

The EU will continue to engage with the transitional authorities as it tackles the immense challenges ahead, while addressing outstanding concerns.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/05/28/syria-eu-adopts-legal-acts-to-lift-economic-sanctions-on-syria-enacting-recent-political-agreement/>.

² <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/06/23/syria-council-approves-conclusions/>.

³ https://north-africa-middle-east-gulf.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-announces-eu-175-million-support-recovery-syria-2025-06-04_en.