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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.12.2025)

1. The EU closely follows the situation of religious minorities in Egypt as part of its broader engagement on human rights with the country. The EU has regular exchanges with Egyptian authorities on the implementation of Egypt's national and international commitments in the area of human rights, including the freedom of religion or belief. In particular, and ahead of the implementation of the second macro-financial assistance, the EU assesses progress on concrete and credible steps taken towards respecting democratic mechanisms and the rule of law and guaranteeing human rights as stated in Article 2 of Decision (EU) 2025/1267¹. The EU has also been supporting these efforts through its ongoing cooperation projects.

2. In its regular contacts with Egyptian authorities, the EU underlines the importance of respecting freedom of religion or belief, as enshrined in the Egyptian constitution and international human rights conventions. The recent visit to Egypt by the EU Special Representative for Human Rights on 25-27 November 2025 was an additional opportunity to address these matters with the Egyptian authorities². The mission allowed for extensive consultations with government officials, the National Council for Human Rights and civil society organisations, including on the freedom of religion or belief.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32025D1267>.

² EU Special Representative for Human Rights Mission to Egypt:
https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/egypt/eu-special-representative-human-rights-visits-egypt_en.