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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.1.2026)

The EU monitors very closely the situation of ethnic and religious minorities in Iran, including the Baha'is, as part of its overall commitment to the human rights situation in the country.

The EU is using every opportunity, both privately and publicly¹, including within United Nations (UN) fora², to urge the Iranian authorities to ensure respect for the fundamental freedoms of all Iranian people and to uphold their obligations under the international law, particularly under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to both of which Iran is a party. In this context, the EU is a strong supporter of the UN accountability mechanisms.

Since 2011, the EU has in place restrictive measures related to serious human rights violations, which have been substantially expanded in recent years in Iran. The latest measures for serious human rights violations in the country were adopted in April 2025³, and this approach will continue as long as necessary.

¹ https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/webstreaming/plenary-session_20251126-0900-PLenary.

² https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-3rd-committee-interactive-dialogue-human-rights-iran_en.

³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/04/14/iran-seven-individuals-and-two-entities-targeted-by-eu-s-sanctions-over-serious-human-rights-violations/>.