Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant

WHERE SILENCE ENDS AND JUSTICE BEGINS

Strasbourg, October 9, 2025

Draft Resolution

"A Syria for All — Framework for Inclusive Governance, Justice, and Peace"

Submitted to the

Parliament of the European Union

by the

Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant (IDHRV-ARMIL)

in collaboration with

representatives of civil society and affected communities.

0. Introduction

- Recognizing that the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and unity of the Syrian Arab Republic must remain inviolable, and that any sustainable peace must rest upon equality, justice, and inclusiveness for all citizens regardless of ethnicity, religion, or political affiliation.
- Recalling the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Acknowledging the unprecedented suffering of the Syrian people—particularly the indigenous and minority communities, including Alawites, Christians, Druze, Ismailis, Yazidis, and others—who have endured persecution, displacement, and violence during years of conflict.
- Deeply concerned that violent extremist organizations, some of which have received external support, have committed mass atrocities, including ethnic cleansing and the destruction of Syria's pluralistic cultural heritage.
- Recognizing also that foreign interference, whether through the arming of extremist groups or the provocation of internal divisions, has prolonged the conflict, deepened sectarian polarization, and obstructed efforts toward peace and national reconciliation.
- Noting with concern persistent regional reports and allegations that certain external actors, including Israel, may have contributed to escalating tensions in Druze-populated areas under the pretext of protection, thereby jeopardizing both community stability and Syria's sovereignty.
- Affirming that peace and stability can only be achieved through national unity, equality before the law, transitional justice, and democratic governance under the sovereign authority of the Syrian Arab Republic.
- Emphasizing that Syria must adopt a non-federation governmental system that balances national unity with local empowerment, ensuring that provinces are governed by their local populations and enjoy meaningful autonomy in administration, justice, and economic management.
- Recognizing further that any legitimate transition requires the full participation of all Syrians through free, fair, and internationally supervised elections conducted under UN auspices.
- Welcoming the readiness of the United States, the European Union, and other regional and global partners to support a democratic transition, reconstruction, and reconciliation process under international law.
- Guided by the principles of impartial justice, inclusive governance, and the protection of Syria's pluralistic identity, the European Parliament / Human Rights Council hereby adopts the following recommendations:

1. Governance and Decentralization

- Affirms that the Syrian Arab Republic shall remain a unitary state governed through a non-federation system with empowered provinces whose leadership arises from the local population and exercises authority over local security forces and judicial institutions under national coordination mechanisms.
- Supports the establishment of elected provincial and municipal councils responsible for health, education, infrastructure, urban planning, and public safety, with proportional representation of minorities constituting at least ten percent of the local population.

• Encourages consensus-based national governance through a Grand Coalition Government and parliamentary rules requiring two-thirds majority votes for legislation affecting identity, religion, or cultural rights, and a constitutionally reviewable minority safeguard limited to fundamental rights and cultural integrity.

2. Justice and Rule of Law

- Calls for the immediate adoption of a Comprehensive Revised Penal Code that incorporates crimes against humanity, war crimes including command responsibility, hate crimes, enforced disappearance, torture, sexual violence, and pillage as aggravated offenses.
- Ensures full alignment of national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
- Urges the creation of a Special Prosecutor's Office (SPO), hybrid judicial panels composed of Syrian and international judges to ensure impartiality, and a Witness Protection Act guaranteeing anonymity, relocation, and safety.
- Endorses Security Sector Reform (SSR) to ensure a civilian-controlled Ministry of Interior, community policing accountable to local authorities, dissolution of militias within six months, and permanent exclusion from public office of individuals implicated in war crimes or human rights violations.

3. Safe and Voluntary Return

- Emphasizes that all refugee and internally displaced persons' returns must be safe, voluntary, dignified, and informed, in accordance with the UNHCR Framework on Durable Solutions.
- Supports the establishment of a Syrian Property Claims Commission (SPCC) to resolve claims within five years, accepting alternative evidence such as utility bills or ecclesiastical registry documents where property deeds are absent.
- Requests the creation of a Reconstruction and Compensation Fund, financed by the Syrian state and international donors, to ensure restitution and compensation.
- Calls for UN-led coordination of mine and unexploded ordnance clearance, restoration of basic services, and protection against forced displacement or demographic engineering.

4. Transitional Justice and National Reconciliation

- Affirms the establishment of a Truth and Memory Commission for 18–24 months to collect, verify, and publicly document survivors' testimonies and propose binding recommendations.
- Rejects any blanket amnesty for crimes of murder, torture, sexual violence, or ethnic cleansing.
- Supports conditional clemency for low-level offenders upon full confession and victim approval.
- Calls for victim-centered reparations, including medical care, psychological support, education aid, and confidential rehabilitation for survivors of sexual violence.
- Recommends regional outreach offices to ensure participation from rural and displaced populations and encourages the inclusion of women and youth representatives in all reconciliation bodies.

5. Freedom of Religion, Culture, and Education

- Calls upon the Syrian Arab Republic to adopt a Law on Religious Freedom and Anti-Discrimination, guaranteeing the protection of places of worship, freedom of religious instruction, and burial rites in accordance with cultural traditions.
- Supports the restoration and digital archiving of destroyed cultural heritage sites in cooperation with UNESCO.
- Encourages educational pluralism, including human rights curricula and the teaching of minority languages such as Syriac and Aramaic.

6. Media and Expression

- Supports the adoption of an Independent Media Law guaranteeing freedom of the press and prohibiting direct or indirect ownership or control of media outlets by military or security entities.
- Condemns all forms of hate speech and incitement to violence and calls for administrative penalties for violators.
- Affirms the right of reply and public accountability as essential components of democratic governance.
- Encourages the establishment of a National Media Ombudsperson to oversee complaints and ensure ethical journalism.

7. Economic and Peace Incentives

- Recognizing that economic stabilization is essential to sustainable peace, recommends that targeted sanctions apply solely to war criminals, exempting humanitarian and reconstruction initiatives.
- Calls for a compliance—reward system prioritizing aid for provinces implementing inclusive governance and human rights protections.
- Encourages Employment for Peace and Recovery (EPR) Programs to reintegrate former combatants and returnees through public reconstruction work, mine clearance, and environmental restoration.
- Calls for international investment guarantees and transparent procurement to prevent corruption and promote local enterprise participation.

8. Oversight and Monitoring

- Requests that a United Nations or jointly mandated regional civilian observation mission be deployed with nationwide access to monitor implementation and report publicly every three months.
- Urges public transparency of quarterly reports through online publication and parliamentary briefings.
- Calls for the National Human Rights Commission to establish offices in Latakia, Sweida, Homs, Aleppo, and Hasakeh.
- Encourages the formation of a Parliamentary Pluralism Committee to hold monthly sessions, question ministers, and publish reports.

9. Regional and External Actors

- Notes with concern credible reports suggesting that certain external actors, including Israel, may have contributed to unrest in Druze areas under the pretext of protection, which, if substantiated, would constitute interference contrary to international law.
- Emphasizes that such involvement, if confirmed, would constitute external interference contrary to regional stability and international law.
- Encourages regional dialogue frameworks, under UN auspices, to promote non-intervention pledges among neighboring states.
- Urges all regional and global actors to respect Syria's sovereignty, avoid proxy conflicts, and support inclusive, non-sectarian peace initiatives that safeguard all communities.

10. Western Responsibility

- Recognizes the moral and political responsibility of the Western world to cease any support for violent extremist organizations that have committed atrocities against Syria's indigenous peoples.
- Urges the United States, the European Union, and allied powers to end all forms of extremist sponsorship and prioritize secular, inclusive, and rights-based reconstruction efforts.
- Invites Western nations to prioritize humanitarian assistance, education, and the protection of minorities as core pillars of reconstruction.

11. Role of the United Nations

- Calls upon the United Nations, with the full support of the United States, the European Union, and other international partners, to organize free, fair, and transparent elections across Syria under international supervision.
- Requests that the UN establish an Independent Election Commission with Syrian participation to oversee voter registration, ballot integrity, and international observation.
- Emphasizes that these elections must ensure equal participation of all citizens and result in a legitimate, accountable, and representative government within the constitutional framework of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Adopted under the authority of the Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant (IDHRV-ARMIL), representing victims, survivors, and advocates for a just, pluralistic, and democratic Syria, and submitted for endorsement by the European Parliament.

Dr. Jens Kreinath

Director | IDHRV-ARMIL Website: www.idhrv.org

Contact: jens.kreinath@idhrv.org

The Institute for the Documentation of Human Rights Violations against Religious Minorities in the Levant (IDHRV-ARMIL) is an independent and tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization registered and incorporated on July 24, 2025, with the Secretary of State in Kansas. Place of Jurisdiction: Wichita U.S. Courthouse for the United States District Court for the District of Kansas, 401 N Market St, Room 204, Wichita, KS 67202, U.S.A. +1-316-315-4200.