



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

WHERE SILENCE ENDS AND JUSTICE BEGINS

November 26, 2025

## **Safeguarding Minority Rights and Inclusive Governance in Syria Comprehensive Policy Framework**

### **Safeguarding Minority Rights and Inclusive Governance in Syria**

#### **Purpose**

This policy paper presents priority measures to protect minority communities in Syria, strengthen governance, and advance justice and reconciliation. It is intended to guide diplomatic engagement, donor coordination, and international monitoring.

#### **Key Recommendations**

##### **1. Governance and Decentralization**

- Syria's unitary character with empowered provinces exercising authority over local security and judicial institutions.
- Monitor and prevent demographic change, including coercive displacement of Alawite communities, which threatens electoral integrity.
- Elected provincial and municipal councils with proportional minority representation.

##### **2. Safe and Voluntary Return**

- Establish a Syrian Property Claims Commission to resolve claims within five years, accepting alternative documentation.
- Create a Reconstruction and Compensation Fund financed by Syria and international donors.
- Ensure UN-led clearance of mines, restoration of services, and protection against forced displacement.

##### **3. Transitional Justice and National Reconciliation**

- Establish a Truth and Memory Commission (18–24 months) to document survivors' testimonies and issue binding recommendations.
- Provide victim-centered reparations: medical care, psychological support, education aid, and rehabilitation for survivors of sexual violence.

- Ensure inclusive participation through regional outreach offices, with guaranteed roles for women and youth.

### **Diplomatic Priorities**

- **International Monitoring:** Support mechanisms to track displacement, property transfers, and electoral integrity.
- **Donor Engagement:** Align reconstruction funding with restitution and minority protection.
- **Legal Harmonization:** Encourage Syrian authorities to adopt international standards on justice and accountability.
- **Inclusive Dialogue:** Promote minority participation in governance and reconciliation processes.

### **Conclusion**

Syria's stability depends on protecting minority rights, ensuring electoral fairness, and embedding justice in governance. Diplomatic actors are urged to prioritize monitoring, funding, and advocacy to secure a durable peace grounded in inclusivity and accountability.

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