

THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL,

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS,

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Date: 28.01.2025

Subject: Urgent Action Request to Prevent War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and Genocide Against the Alevi (Alawite) Community in Syria

Dear Honorable Members of the United Nations Security Council,

We, on behalf of Alevitische Union Europa e.V. (*Alevi Union of Europe, registered association*), Föderation arabischer Aleviten in Europa e.V. (*Federation of Arab Alevis in Europe, registered association*) and Alevi Bektaşî Federasyonu (*Alevi Bektashi Federation*) hereby submit this petition for urgent intervention by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in relation to the ongoing systematic human rights violations against the Arab Alevi Community in Syria. The violations committed by the new Syrian regime, including the Islamist-Jihadist group Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and affiliated militia groups, include persecution, murder, torture, forced disappearances, isolation, attacks on places of worship, assaults on religious and cultural values, belief-based discrimination, sexual violence, and other forms of violence that threaten the survival of the Alevi population in the region. These attacks constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Background and Context

It is well known that the Syrian Civil War has largely been driven by sectarian conflict. The radical Islamist terrorist groups, such as ISIS and Al-Nusra, which are classified as terrorist organizations by the United Nations, have carried out extremist, terroristic attacks on the Alevi community in Syria, particularly between 2012 and 2016, during the height of the civil war. These attacks, which amount to crimes against humanity, are clearly documented in the attached reports and evidence.

However, the massacres targeting the Alevi community cannot be solely explained by sectarian conflict. This is because, while calls for massacres against Shiite communities or Christians are not made, there are clear demands for the complete eradication of all Alevi populations. Even though the Salafi jihadist groups that have seized power, along with jihadist organizations coming from foreign countries, do not constitute even 20% of the population,

their efforts reflect an attempt by a minority government. The new regime, despite representing only about 15% of the population, has found its solution to achieving numerical dominance in the mass extermination of the most vulnerable community, the Alevi. This reality is clearly reflected in the attached documents and information.

The sources of the will to commit massacres against the Alevi community trace back to ancient times, with religious fatwas declaring the necessity of their extermination dating as far back as the 14th century. The contemporary versions of these calls for genocide continue to be issued by the current religious leaders of jihadist groups such as ISIS, Al-Nusra (al-Nusra Front), and HTS. The details of these fatwas, both from the civil war period and from the post-Assad era under the new HTS regime, are included in the attached reports and documents. One of the components of the new ruling HTS is the terrorist organization Al-Nusra, and it is well-established in both the attached reports and current UN documents that HTS leader Ahmed al-Shara (al-Colani) and the current leadership of HTS are former Al-Qaeda and ISIS fighters. Moreover, it is confirmed in the reports provided, as well as in the official UN reports, that al-Julani was the caliph of ISIS in Syria. (See the attached AAAF report).

On the other hand, the second source of motivation for the attackers stems from the fact that the ousted leader, Assad, is Alevi, leading to the perception that all Alevis are direct enemies. However, a significant portion of the Alevi community has not been involved in Assad's unlawful actions, and many Alevis who criticized Assad for these actions have also fallen victim to the severe oppression of the former regime. The Alevi community is also a victim of the Assad regime. The current vulnerability, disorganization, and poverty of the Alevis in Syria stand as concrete evidence of this.

Therefore, it is imperative that international legal forces take immediate action against the unlawful terrorist tactics employed by the new regime against the Alevis. Given that the attacks are based on religious fatwas, which constitute a central motivation for the new regime, which is organized around religious principles, it is crucial to consider that political authorities are unable to control religious authorities.

The Arab Alevi community is increasingly being targeted by the new regime under Ahmed Shara/Colani and the HTS (Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham) and its affiliated forces. Alevi communities, primarily living in coastal regions of Syria such as Latakia and Tartus, have faced systematic repression and forced assimilation due to their religious identity. This oppression and brutal violence have intensified under the new Syrian government, which seeks to eliminate

opposition forces, including the Alevi community, through ruthless methods. This shift towards inhumane practices under the new regime is well known to the international community, especially as it resembles the tactics of ISIS, one of the predecessors of HTS. As a result of fatwas calling for massacre, it is also evident that many foreign jihadist groups (based outside Syria) within the HTS structure are uncontrollable and not under the new regime's oversight.

Over the past few months, there has been a significant increase in reports of extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, forced displacements, torture, sexual violence, and other atrocities committed not only by the forces of the new regime but also by affiliated paramilitary groups. The targets of these attacks are clear, with the systematic isolation of the Alevi community, the destruction of their religious sites, and the extreme torture and inhumane treatment of their members. The Alevi community, along with the civilian population, all secular components of society, and any groups opposing the new regime, can no longer continue living under such severe threat. Judges, religious leaders, and academics are being killed or forcibly disappeared simply because of their Alevi identity. This is a deliberate attempt to psychologically break down the Alevi community. In fact, voice messages have circulated offering cash rewards for the killing of Alevis, Kurds, and Christians. Efforts have also been reported to prevent information from leaking to the outside, with special measures taken in communication groups to ensure that news of the massacre does not spread. Throughout all of this, the international community has failed to adequately respond to what is now a full-scale genocide.

I. Specific Violations and Evidence

The following actions have been documented as violations of international law, particularly in relation to the Geneva Conventions, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and other binding international human rights instruments.

- **Killings and Executions:** Hundreds of Alevi civilians have been killed in mass executions and bombings by Syrian new regime military forces. Following the seizure of power by Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and its allies, attacks and human rights violations have spread rapidly in Alevi -populated areas. The new president of Syria, Ahmad Shara's forces, attack and shoot at the civilian population with long-barreled weapons, regardless of the target. During these attacks, people from the civilian population residing in Alevi regions are killed, and these scenes of brutality are also recorded on videos. We are submitting these videos and images as attachments with this petition.

For instance,

Three Alevi judges were executed on December 24, 2025, at the Rabia-Masyaf junction in the northwestern countryside of Hama. According to local sources, the Beirut-based Al-Mayadin TV reported that the judges were serving in the land registry court in Hama and were targeted by unidentified gunmen as they were returning from a meeting in Hama. This was also confirmed in the statement made by the Justice Minister of the new administration in Syria.

On December 7, 2024, armed groups launched a large-scale attack on several Alevi villages in the Hama region, including Rabiah and Zaghbah. Many villagers who were unable to flee were captured, tortured, and brutally murdered. Eyewitnesses reported systematic killings; numerous victims were shot, while others were burned alive. The victims included men, women, children, and the elderly.

One of the most devastating examples is the massacre in Homs, which claimed approximately 90 lives by January 5, 2025, including many women and children. The attackers, armed groups with access to heavy weaponry, used not only firearms but also explosives and incendiary weapons to inflict extreme suffering and destruction. Entire families were trapped in their homes and burned alive, while the attackers systematically ensured no one could escape.

According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, three Alevi clerics were killed by unknown gunmen on the Tartus-Damascus highway.

Sheikh Ali Deeb Abu Rami (aged 65) and his wife were abducted from the village of Danibah. Their bodies were discovered on January 8, 2025, on a roadside near the village of Sanidah. This incident sparked widespread outrage and condemnation across the region.

In the village of Ain Sharqia, Latakia Province, three Alevi farmers, including a child, were killed by foreign Islamist fighters allied with the new Syrian authorities. The victims, all members of the same family, were attacked while working in their fields. Thousands gathered on January 9, 2025, to mourn the victims during their burial.

- **Torture and Inhumane Treatment:** Detainees from the Alevi community are subjected to severe physical and psychological torture, including electrocution, waterboarding, sexual violence, and psychological abuse. These actions are in violation

of the United Nations Convention Against Torture (CAT). The systematic torture of Alevi prisoners by armed groups and militias reveals yet another harrowing dimension of the persecution. Men and women held in secret prisons are subjected to horrific abuse designed to strip them entirely of their humanity.

According to Rami Abdulrahman, the head of the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), the vast majority of the nearly 9,000 soldiers arrested in Syria so far on charges of being "remnants of the old regime" belong to the Alevi community. Abdulrahman stated that a significant portion of the soldiers arrested were soldiers who were involved in deployments against ISIS and were not implicated in war crimes. He further noted that their arrests were primarily driven by their sectarian affiliation.

A particularly shocking example is a prison near Idlib, where dozens of Alevis were held under extreme conditions. Survivors describe unbearably brutal torture techniques: electric shocks, the extraction of fingernails, and constant psychological abuse were part of their daily lives. Many prisoners did not survive these ordeals. However, even after death, the cruelty continued: their bodies were publicly displayed as a form of intimidation and humiliation.

- **Enforced Disappearances:** Many Alevi individuals have been forcibly disappeared, with no trace of their whereabouts or any recourse for their families to seek justice. This practice is a clear breach of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

For instance,

One of the country's prominent literary figures, poet, writer, philosopher, and Head of the Arabic Language Department at Homs University, Prof. Dr. Rasha Al-Ali, was abducted on January 19, 2025. Around 12:00 p.m., as she was leaving the university, individuals with masked faces emerged from a vehicle and forcibly abducted Ali, pushing her into the car. Following the news of the incident, the Syrian Arab Writers Union issued a statement. The statement read: "As colleagues with high moral character and genuine knowledge, we call upon all activists in the Homs Governorate, hoping for the intervention of the military leadership in Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, to demand and support her release."

A detention case that also caused concern among doctors in Damascus occurred recently. Dr. Kusay El-Zir, the Head of the Pediatric Department at Damascus Hospital, was arrested while treating his patients. The arresting officers identified themselves as "HTS police." The doctor, who was reportedly taken to the police station, has not been

heard from since. There is a very high likelihood that this case could turn out to be another disappearance.

(The news link for the two events mentioned above.: <https://hursedanet.net/dunya/265154-suriye-de-ajanlar-cirit-atiyor-unlu-sair-ve-filozof-kacirildi.html>)

In Homs, where approximately 15% of the population is Alevi, around 3,000 young Alevi men were reportedly abducted by HTS and other armed factions between December 2024 and January 2025. Most of these men were killed after enduring severe torture, according to eyewitness accounts.

- **Sexual Attacks and Violences:** The women of the Alevi community face not only physical violence but also targeted sexual violence designed to dehumanize them and symbolically attack the entire community. Reports confirm that Alevi women are often abused as "trophies" of war – a cruel instrument that combines physical suffering and psychological destruction.

Women in these attacks are systematically raped, enslaved, and often forced to undress in front of their tormentors. These forms of sexual humiliation serve not only to suppress individuals but are part of a broader strategy to destroy the psychological stability and cultural identity of the Alevis.

A particularly shocking example occurred in the Latakia region, where militias abducted Alevi women and girls during targeted raids to abuse them. These assaults were not accidental byproducts of war – they were deliberate acts meant to break the community psychologically and publicly shame the victims, amplifying the symbolic impact of the attacks.

In areas controlled by militias like HTS, sexual violence is systematically used to attack Alevi identity. Women and girls are not only targeted as civilians but also abused as symbols of their community. Their violation is employed to humiliate, destabilize, and undermine the Alevis psychologically, culturally, and socially.

This sexual violence constitutes a crime against humanity and highlights the cruelty with which the persecution of the Alevis is carried out. It is not only an attack on the individual victims but an attempt to dismantle the entire community.

- **Destruction of Religious Sites and Properties:** Religious buildings, such as Alevi mosques and sacred sites, have been deliberately targeted and destroyed, which amounts to a violation of international law prohibiting attacks on cultural and religious heritage under the Hague Convention.

A central aspect of the persecution of the Alevis in Syria is the systematic destruction of their religious and cultural sites. These attacks aim not only to physically displace the Alevis but also to erase their identity and history. Religious sites are not merely places of worship; they form the foundation of Alevi culture and identity. Their loss represents a profound spiritual and cultural wound that far exceeds the material damage.

For instance,

According to a report by the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), unidentified armed individuals launched an attack on the “Abu Abdullah al-Hussein al-Hasibi” shrine, located in the Meyseloun area of Aleppo.

Abu Abdullah al-Hussein bin Hamdan al-Cunbulani al-Hasibi is considered one of the prominent scholars of the Alevi community, which continues to have a presence in Syria, Turkey (Mersin-Adana-Hatay), and Lebanon. Al-Hasibi is regarded as the “second founder” of Alevism (Nusayrism) after Ibn Nusayr. The attackers set the shrine on fire and killed five unarmed volunteer guards who had tried to protect the sacred site. This heinous crime was filmed and disseminated on social media to publicly desecrate the Alevis’ religious symbols and humiliate their community.

SOHR announced that the attackers killed five people on duty at the shrine, tortured their bodies, vandalized the shrine and set it on fire, and that this incident was documented in a video they received.

In the Latakia region, a historical stronghold of Alevi culture, numerous religious and cultural sites have also been destroyed. These include mausoleums, historic libraries, and other buildings central to the identity and centuries-old traditions of the Alevis. This destruction was not random – it was a deliberate strategy to uproot the cultural foundations of the Alevis and strip them of their spiritual and historical grounding.

Militants affiliated with the Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) government in Syria have executed 35 people on 21-24 January 2025, according to the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR). The victims were mostly former officers from the ousted government of President Bashar al-Assad who had presented themselves at centers established by the new HTS-led authorities. SOHR also reported that HTS-installed security forces carried out multiple arrests in Homs Province, with a "criminal group" posing as security personnel to abuse residents. These actions followed grave violations, including the summary executions of 35 individuals. SOHR condemned what

it called an "unprecedented level of cruelty and violence" in Syria, detailing arbitrary arrests, brutal executions, mutilations of corpses, and attacks on religious symbols. Religious minorities, particularly Alevis, had suffered "humiliations," as armed groups exploited their ties to the HTS and the ongoing chaos to settle old scores. Additionally, the Civil Peace Group, a civil society organization, condemned the "unjustified violations," including the killing of unarmed men in several Homs villages during the security sweep.

[\(https://www.syriahr.com/بعد-إع-د-د-ا-م-35-شخصا-خلال-72-ساعة-إدارة-الع/746855/\)](https://www.syriahr.com/بعد-إع-د-د-ا-م-35-شخصا-خلال-72-ساعة-إدارة-الع/746855/)

- **Forced Replacements:** The regime, by creating buffer zones around cities and towns predominantly inhabited by the Alevi community, has forced thousands of Alevi families to flee their homes, either to refugee camps, mountain villages, or neighboring countries. For example, before the HTS regime, the Alevi population in the city of Homs constituted nearly one-third of the city's population; however, it is known that the majority of Alevis have since fled the city, and Alevi neighborhoods have been evacuated. Similar mass migration is recorded in cities such as Latakia and Tartus, where Alevis are the majority. Alevis are being forced into exile, and their properties are being looted as spoils of war by HTS affiliates. It is clear that a population policy has been implemented, forcing Alevis out of cities where they are a minority, with jihadist gangs forcibly seizing their homes and pushing them into mountain villages. Reports from the region also suggest that foreign jihadist groups are being settled in areas emptied by Alevis.

II. Urgency for Immediate Intervention in the Context of Violations Against the Alevi Community in Syria under International Law

Escalating Violence Against the Alevi Community in Syria:

In recent times, the Alevi community in Syria has faced an alarming escalation of violence, including extrajudicial killings, torture, sexual violence, abductions, and threats to their existence. These attacks are systematic and largely driven by ethnic, religious, and sectarian motives, targeting individuals based on their Alevi identity, which is contrary to fundamental principles of international human rights law.

Violation of International Humanitarian Law (Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols):

Under **Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions**, which applies to non-international armed conflicts, all parties are obligated to ensure the humane treatment of persons who are not actively participating in hostilities, including civilians. The widespread targeting of civilians from the Alevi community, particularly through violence based on their religious and ethnic identity, constitutes a clear violation of these principles.

The **Additional Protocols (1977)** further stipulate the protection of civilians, prohibiting acts of violence against those based on their race, religion, or ethnic origin during armed conflicts. The ongoing persecution of the Alevi community in Syria aligns with these prohibited acts and underscores the urgent need for intervention.

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948):

The systematic targeting of the Alevi population with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, this group qualifies as genocide under **Article II of the Genocide Convention**. Acts of mass killings, infliction of serious bodily or mental harm, and deliberate conditions that threaten the Alevi community's survival directly violate the provisions of the Convention.

Article III holds individuals accountable for such acts, including the perpetrators of crimes like torture, forced displacement, and killing based on ethnicity or religion. This legal framework necessitates immediate international action to prevent further escalation of these crimes.

International Criminal Court (Rome Statute, 1998):

According to **Article 7 of the Rome Statute**, the International Criminal Court (ICC) defines **crimes against humanity** to include a range of abuses such as murder, torture, and sexual violence, committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against civilians. The recent abuses suffered by the Alevi community, including arbitrary executions and sexual violence, fall squarely within this category.

Article 8 also addresses **war crimes**, including the targeting of civilians based on their race, ethnicity, or religion during armed conflict. The ongoing violence in Syria against Alevi civilians can be prosecuted under these provisions, thereby mandating urgent international legal and military action.

The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) Doctrine (2005):

The **Responsibility to Protect (R2P)** doctrine, adopted by the United Nations in 2005, outlines the responsibility of states to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. When a state fails to protect its citizens, as is the case in Syria, the international community is obligated to intervene.

Given the scale and severity of the ongoing violence against the Alevi community, international actors must urgently fulfill their R2P obligations and take swift action to prevent further atrocities.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR, 1966):

The **ICCPR** explicitly prohibits **discrimination** based on religion, ethnicity, and race. **Article 6** guarantees the **right to life**, and any arbitrary killing or violence committed on the basis of ethnicity or religion, as seen with the Alevi community, is a direct violation of these rights. The international community has the obligation to prevent such actions and ensure accountability for the perpetrators.

Furthermore, **Article 7** prohibits torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, highlighting the necessity for international intervention to halt the ongoing abuse of the Alevi community.

The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1963):

The **UN Declaration** emphasizes the elimination of racial discrimination and holds states accountable for taking immediate and effective measures to prevent discrimination, particularly during periods of conflict. The current atrocities against the Alevi community are rooted in racial and sectarian discrimination, necessitating immediate and coordinated international action to safeguard their rights and prevent further loss of life.

International Protection of Ethnic and Religious Minorities:

International law recognizes the **special protection** afforded to ethnic and religious minorities, particularly during periods of conflict. The **UN Minorities Declaration (1992)** and various resolutions of the **UN Human Rights Council** mandate the protection of vulnerable communities, such as the Alevi group, from persecution based on their religious or ethnic identity.

Given the systematic nature of the attacks on the Alevi community, immediate measures must be taken to ensure their safety, prevent further violence, and facilitate humanitarian assistance.

Urgent Need for Immediate Action:

The Alevi community in Syria faces an existential threat from the ongoing violence. **Civilians are being systematically targeted** by armed groups aligned with the new Syrian regime, and their right to live in safety is being undermined. In light of the severity of the situation, **international action is imperative** to prevent further bloodshed.

International bodies, including the United Nations Security Council, must adopt an **urgent action plan** that includes diplomatic pressure on the Syrian regime, targeted sanctions against those responsible for the atrocities, and, if necessary, peacekeeping or military intervention to protect the Alevi community.

Call for Immediate Humanitarian and Legal Intervention:

The atrocities against the Alevi community constitute gross violations of international law. As such, immediate intervention is required to provide **humanitarian relief**, ensure **accountability for perpetrators**, and take measures to prevent further **ethnic and religious cleansing**.

The **UN Security Council** must act decisively and swiftly to implement international law, bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring the safety and protection of the Alevi civilians under threat.

III. Urgent Measures and Mechanisms for the United Nations to Stop Attacks on the Alevi Community in Syria

Firstly, we would like to emphasize that the actions of the new regime in Syria, as well as all opposing forces, targeting the Alevi community through acts of genocide, murder, torture, sexual assault, and abduction—crimes against humanity—should not be addressed solely in the context of the international agreements to which the Syrian state is a party. As demonstrated in the case of measures taken and humanitarian interventions in response to war crimes in Sudan and Libya, it is imperative that humanitarian interventions be promptly extended to the Alevi community in Syria as well.

An urgent intervention plan by the United Nations Security Council, including the deployment of an observation and investigation team to the region, would significantly contribute to the reduction, or even the cessation, of war crimes. The war crimes committed against the Alevi community in Syria have been exacerbated by the international community's silence and reluctance to intervene. Should the official representatives of the United Nations Security Council intervene to halt the war crimes against the Alevi community, armed forces in the region would likely refrain from committing further atrocities.

The United Nations is a competent international body established to safeguard the rights and freedoms of all people across the world. The obligation to halt war crimes and protect victims extends to every human being and living entity on this planet. Therefore, we urgently request the implementation of the immediate measures listed below.

1. Activation of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) Doctrine:

The United Nations must invoke the **Responsibility to Protect (R2P)** doctrine in response to the ongoing and systematic atrocities against the Alevi community in Syria. R2P compels the international community to intervene when a state fails to protect its civilians from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. Given the scale and systematic nature of the attacks against the Alevi community, the **international community has an obligation** to take collective action to prevent further violence.

2. Immediate Convening of the UN Security Council (UNSC):

- The **UN Security Council** must be urgently convened to discuss and address the attacks on the Alevi community. The **UNSC** is the primary body responsible for maintaining international peace and security. Given the severity of the situation, the UNSC should:
- Issue **strong, binding resolutions** calling for an immediate cessation of hostilities against the Alevi community.
- Impose **targeted sanctions** on individuals and groups responsible for orchestrating or carrying out the violence against civilians, including leaders of militias or armed factions involved in sectarian violence.
- Authorize **peacekeeping operations** or establish **safe zones** to protect vulnerable civilian populations.

3. Immediate Intervention to Prevent Genocide

The United Nations and all relevant international organizations must urgently implement measures to ensure the survival of the Alevis. These measures should include:

- Peace missions to protect the Alevi population in their home regions.
- Security forces specifically tasked with targeting armed groups responsible for massacres, torture, and displacement.

4. Establishment of Humanitarian Corridors and Safe Zones:

The United Nations should work in partnership with humanitarian organizations to establish **humanitarian corridors** and **safe zones** specifically for the Alevi community, where civilians can be protected from violence and provided with essential aid. These safe zones should be protected by **international peacekeeping forces** to prevent further incursions by hostile groups and ensure the protection of civilians.

5. Deployment of Human Rights Monitoring Teams:

- The UN should deploy **independent human rights monitoring teams** to the affected regions of Syria, particularly areas where the Alevi community is concentrated. These teams should be tasked with:
- Documenting and reporting human rights violations in real-time, ensuring that evidence of atrocities is collected for future prosecution.
- Offering direct assistance to victims of violence, including providing medical care and psychological support.
- Recommending **specific actions** for the international community based on real-time data on the situation.

6. Referral to the International Criminal Court (ICC):

- The **UN Security Council** should refer the situation in Syria to the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** to investigate and prosecute individuals responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide committed against the Alevi community. This includes:
- **Prosecuting perpetrators** of killings, torture, forced displacement, and sexual violence, which are all part of the crimes against humanity being perpetrated.
- Ensuring that the investigation covers both state and non-state actors responsible for orchestrating or carrying out sectarian violence.

7. Imposition of Comprehensive Sanctions on the Syrian Government and Associated Actors:

- The United Nations should impose **comprehensive economic, military, and travel sanctions** against the **Syrian government** and all parties responsible for the violence against Alevi civilians. These sanctions should target:
- Key government officials and military leaders involved in ordering or facilitating the attacks.
- Armed groups or militias carrying out sectarian violence and human rights abuses against the Alevi population.
- The **blocking of financial assets**, arms supplies, and the imposition of **travel bans** on individuals associated with such groups.

8. Provision of Immediate Humanitarian Aid:

- The United Nations should coordinate a **rapid humanitarian response** to address the immediate needs of the Alevi community, including the provision of:
- **Food, water, medical supplies**, and **shelter** for those displaced by the ongoing violence.
- **Psychosocial support** for survivors of trauma, including survivors of sexual violence, torture, and other forms of abuse.
- **Legal aid and advocacy** for victims, helping them to seek justice and reparations.

9. Engagement with Regional Actors to Secure an Immediate Ceasefire:

- The United Nations should engage with **regional actors**—including neighboring states and international allies—to **facilitate a ceasefire** or peace agreement between the Syrian government and the armed opposition groups involved in targeting the Alevi community.
- Diplomatic pressure should be exerted on regional actors who may have influence over the parties involved to **ensure the protection of civilians and end the violence**.
- Additionally, the UN should encourage **regional cooperation** to prevent further incursions across borders that exacerbate the crisis.

10. Promotion of Transitional Justice and Accountability:

- In the long term, the UN should support **transitional justice mechanisms** to address the atrocities committed against the Alevi community, focusing on:
- **Truth and reconciliation commissions** to help uncover the full extent of abuses and provide a platform for survivors to share their experiences.
- **Accountability measures**, such as **truth commissions, reparations, and criminal prosecutions**, to ensure that perpetrators of crimes are held accountable and that justice is served for the Alevi community.

11. International Awareness and Advocacy Campaign:

- The United Nations should launch an **international advocacy campaign** to raise global awareness about the plight of the Alevi community in Syria and the need for urgent international intervention. This campaign should:
- Highlight the **human rights violations** and atrocities faced by the Alevi community, urging governments and civil society to take a stand against the violence.
- Rally support for the establishment of **safe zones**, the **delivery of humanitarian aid**, and the imposition of international sanctions on those responsible for the violence.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, the continued and escalating violence against the Alevi community in Syria—marked by killings, torture, sexual violence, forced disappearances, and widespread displacement—constitutes a dire humanitarian crisis that demands immediate and decisive action by the United Nations. The systematic nature of these atrocities, carried out by state and non-state actors with the apparent intent to target a religious and ethnic minority, is a flagrant violation of international law, including the Geneva Conventions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Given the scale and gravity of the situation, it is essential that the United Nations mobilize its resources and mechanisms to urgently intervene in order to prevent further loss of life and suffering. The application of the **Responsibility to Protect (R2P)** doctrine should be prioritized, ensuring that the international community acts swiftly to protect the Alevi civilians from the ongoing atrocities. The activation of the **UN Security Council**, with a clear mandate

to impose sanctions, authorize peacekeeping operations, and facilitate the establishment of safe zones, is crucial to halting the violence and providing immediate protection to the victims.

Additionally, the establishment of humanitarian corridors, the referral of the situation to the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**, and the provision of comprehensive humanitarian aid are immediate steps that must be taken to alleviate the suffering of the Alevi community. It is equally important that the United Nations work with regional and international partners to ensure accountability for the perpetrators of these crimes, and to bring those responsible to justice.

This petition is made in the hope that the United Nations, as the principal global institution tasked with the protection of human rights and the maintenance of international peace and security, will demonstrate the necessary leadership and commitment to act. The international community must not stand by while civilians continue to suffer. The time to act is now, and it is our firm belief that with the UN's swift intervention, the Alevi community in Syria can be safeguarded from further atrocities.

We respectfully urge the United Nations to take all necessary actions to fulfill its obligation to protect innocent lives, uphold the principles of justice and human rights, and prevent further bloodshed in Syria. The eyes of the world are upon you, and the lives of thousands of innocent civilians depend on your decisive action.

The evidence, including videos, images, and documentation related to the specific examples mentioned in our petition—examples that it is not possible to detail individually—are attached. These include proof of the incidents, as well as documents from internationally recognized organizations, impartial observers, and media outlets reporting on the war crimes. Additionally, the videos and images will be uploaded to a USB drive and submitted alongside our petition. Since it is not feasible to describe each individual war crime in detail within our petition, we strongly request that the reports and sources included in the attachment be carefully considered.

Finally, we would like to emphasize that we request your esteemed institution to consider the matters falling within your area of responsibility, as outlined in the requests section of our application. We also request that the other matters be addressed through cooperation with the relevant units within the United Nations.

We respectfully submit this petition for your immediate consideration and action.

Sincerely,

On Behalf of
ALEVI UNION OF EUROPE
FEDERATION OF ARAB ALEVIS IN EUROPE
ALEVI BEKTASHI FEDERATION

Attn. Seda Alcinar *****Istanbul Bar Association Reg *****

Attn. Gülay Kurtyiğit *****Karlsruhe Bar Association Reg *****

Attn. Dr. Orhan Gazi Ertekin *****Izmir Bar Association Reg *****

Attn. Seyit ***** Istanbul Bar Association Reg. *****

Attn. Aytekin Aktaş *****Izmir Bar Association Reg*****

Contact Information:

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On Behalf Of:

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- Föderation arabischer Aleviten in Europa e.V. (*Federation of Arab Alevis in Europe*)
- Alevi Bektaşî Federasyonu (*Alevi Bektashi Federation*)

• **Email:** *****

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• **Address:** *****

Annexes

Annex 1: The USB drive containing videos and images related to killings, assaults, and torture incidents.

Annex 2: Report about the Alevis in Syria issued by Federation of Arab Alevis in Europe

Annex 3: Syrian Human Rights Observatory News/Reports

Annex 4: News and Articles

Annex 5: Human Rights Watch Report Summary

Annex 6: Board of Directors' Decisions Regarding Application and Lawyer Authorization of Applicant Organizations