

Statement by Minister Baird on Today's Syrian "Referendum"

 canada.ca/en/news/archive/2012/02/statement-minister-baird-today-syrian-referendum-.html

February 26, 2012 - Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird issued the following statement:

“This is a dubious ploy by the Assad regime to delay the inevitable while continuing its slaughter of Syrian civilians. Assad’s “referendum” is a farce. It is also too little, too late.

“Assad must go. A new day must dawn for the Syrian people.

“Canada will continue working with our international partners to pave the way for a peaceful transition to a society that respects the fundamental rights of all its people.

“Canada stands with the people of Syria as they aspire to build a new Syria based on democratic values and institutions.”

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Foreign Affairs Media Relations Office
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
613-995-1874
Follow us on Twitter: [@DFAIT](https://twitter.com/DFAIT) [MAECI](https://twitter.com/MAECI)