

Syria: Statement by High Representative Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič on the renewal of cross-border humanitarian deliveries

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The unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2585 (2021) on Friday is welcome news. This will allow the UN to use the crossing point of Bab al-Hawa from Turkey to Syria for an initial six months, to be followed by further six months subject to a report by the UN Secretary General. It means a considerable relief for millions of Syrians who rely on the humanitarian assistance delivered through this mechanism for their survival.

The renewal of the UNSC Resolution on cross-border assistance is vital since there is no adequate alternative to meet the growing humanitarian needs in Syria.

The EU will continue to advocate for all parties to depoliticise the delivery of humanitarian aid, which should continue to be needs-based and people-centred, and will continue to do its utmost to provide assistance to those in need inside Syria based on the humanitarian principles. This includes the use of all assistance modalities, including across the border as well as cross-line from Damascus.

The European Union reiterates its call for a sustainable solution to the Syrian conflict through a genuine, inclusive political transition in line with UNSC resolution 2254 and its support to the efforts of UN Special Envoy Geir Pedersen.

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