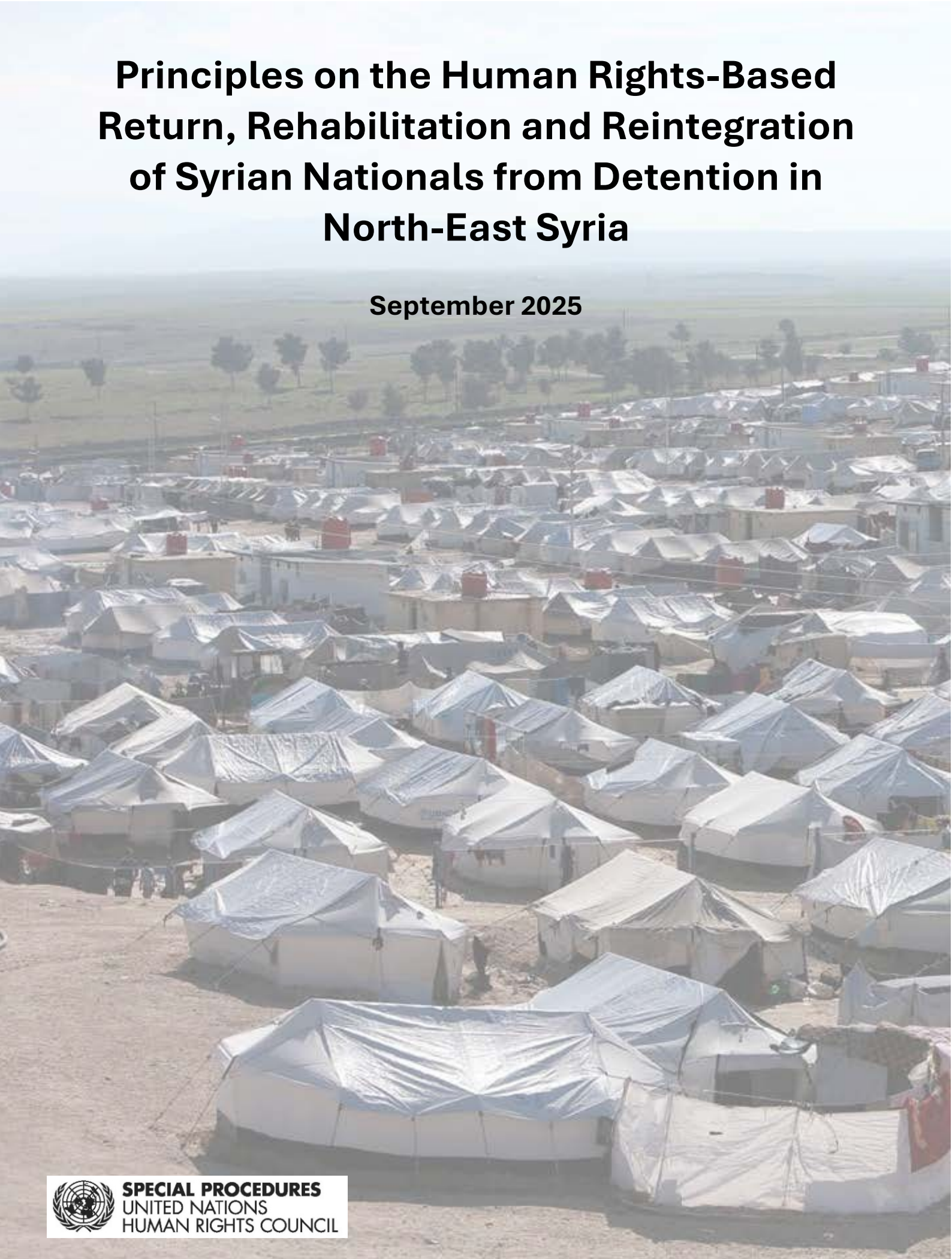
Principles on the Human Rights-Based Return, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Syrian Nationals from Detention in North-East Syria

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Contents

Introduction **1**

Context **2**

Principles **3**

Principle 1: Compliance with international and domestic law 3

Principle 2: Individual assessment and screening 3

Principle 3: Voluntariness, freedom from coercion, and informed consent 3

Principle 4: Return to place of origin or relocation 4

Principle 5: Safe and dignified returns 4

Principle 6: Access to civil documentation 4

Principle 7: Humanitarian assistance 4

Principle 8: Sustainable reintegration 5

Principle 9: Inclusive communities and social cohesion 5

Principle 10: Victims of sexual and gender-based violence 5

Principle 11: Women's rights and equality 6

Principle 12: Child protection 6

Principle 13: Rehabilitation and prevention 7

Principle 14: Accountability for violations 7

Principle 15: Preventing statelessness 8

Principle 16: Independent monitoring and evaluation 8

Principle 17: International assistance and burden sharing 9

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Introduction

The political transition in Syria is an opportunity to urgently end the arbitrary, indefinite and inhumane detention of over 40,000 people in North-East Syria, many held for over six years since 2019 in relation to the conflict with Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL (Daesh)). On 10 March 2025, the detaining authority, the "Syrian Democratic Forces", a Kurdish-led non-State armed group, agreed to join Syria's national security institutions. This paved the way for an agreement with the Syrian Interim Government on 27 May 2025 to jointly facilitate the return of Syrian nationals from the detention facilities to areas under national control. Previously, Syrian nationals had only been able to return to Kurdish-controlled areas, where reintegration centres have been established. Under the new arrangement, in mid-June 2025, 187 individuals from 42 families were returned, and in late July a further 127 individuals from 36 families with special humanitarian needs were returned to Raqqa, Idlib, and Aleppo in coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In this context, these Principles in this document aim to constructively assist the Syrian authorities and its partners to design and implement processes for the effective return, rehabilitation and reintegration of Syrian nationals that both respect human rights and contribute to Syria's stabilization. Returns within Syria fall outside the Global Framework on United Nations Support to Member States on Individuals Returned from the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq.[1] These Principles are based on international human rights law and international humanitarian law and draw on applicable or analogous normative standards addressing internally displaced persons, displacement in armed conflict, refugee returns, and the prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters and their families.[2]

The non-exhaustive Principles address: (1) compliance with international law; (2) individual assessment and screening; (3) voluntariness, freedom from coercion, and informed consent; (4) return to place of origin or relocation; (5) safe and dignified returns; (6) access to civil documentation; (7) humanitarian assistance; (8) sustainable reintegration; (9) inclusive communities and social cohesion; (10) victims of sexual and gender-based violence; (11) women's rights and equality; (12) child protection; (13) rehabilitation and prevention; (14) accountability for violations; (15) preventing statelessness; (16) independent monitoring and evaluation; and (17) international assistance and burden sharing.

Rights-based returns can help to resolve and remedy the protracted humanitarian crisis, systemic rights violations, and grave security risks resulting from the arbitrary detention of tens of thousands of people. The returns are one small but important part of Syria's post-conflict transition. As such, they must be embedded in the wider processes of assistance to all internally displaced persons, and victims of terrorism and human rights violations, ensuing from the conflict; the transition from humanitarian assistance to reconstruction and development; the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of militants and security sector reform; legal and judicial change; and transitional justice, including accountability for violations by all State and non-State actors, truth-seeking, reconciliation and reparation for victims.

The international community must also do its part in assisting to return Syrian nationals. Foreign States should also follow the example of Iraq and Syria in returning their own nationals from detention in North-East Syria. Third country nationals are few in number compared to Syrians and Iraqis, yet many of their States of nationality have failed to fulfil their responsibility to repatriate their nationals and have instead shifted the humanitarian and security burdens onto the people of Syria, with dire human rights impacts on detainees.

Context

After the defeat of ISIL's territorial Caliphate in 2019, at their peak the detention facilities (including camps and prisons) in North-East Syria held over 73,000 people. Currently, about 40,000 people are detained in various types of facilities in North-East Syria. Almost 9,000 male ISIL suspects are detained without due process of law, including 5,400 Syrians, up to 1,700 Iraqis, and 1,500 people from 50 other countries. The vast majority are held incommunicado without information on their fate or whereabouts.

Around 30,800 others remain arbitrarily detained in camps, including family members and associates of ISIL suspects, refugees, internally displaced persons, and victims of trafficking. About 60 percent are children and the rest mostly women. Hundreds of adolescent boys have been forcibly separated from their mothers and are held in prisons or "rehabilitation" centres.

It is estimated that over 15,000 of those in the camps are Syrian nationals. Approximately 6,700 Iraqi nationals await repatriation,[3] after Iraq reportedly returned almost 18,000 nationals and has committed to returning the rest by 2027. Around 7–8,000 people come from 50 other countries. Only 2,700 third country nationals were returned in the six years since 2019,[4] and unlike Syria and Iraq, few of their States of nationality have committed to repatriate them.

The detaining authority is the "Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (DAANES)", the civilian administration of the Syrian Democratic Forces, with support from the United States and the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. Daily camp coordination and management is provided by the U.S. non-governmental organization Blumont. In January 2025, the temporary suspension of U.S. aid to non-governmental organizations operating in the camps exacerbated life-threatening conditions and risked destabilizing the already precarious security situation, including as a result of the threat of ISIL and armed interventions by foreign States. While aid soon resumed, in February 2025 the U.S. announced it intended to cease assistance for managing and securing the camps. The future of the U.S. military presence in North-East Syria is also uncertain.

The serious human rights violations in detention have been extensively documented by this mandate[5] and other actors.[6] They include arbitrary, indefinite detention without due process or judicial safeguards; enforced disappearance; slavery; torture; physical and psychological violence from the detaining authority and between detainees, such as murder, assault and sexual, gender-based and reproductive violence; detention conditions constituting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; inadequate food, water, sanitation, health care (physical and mental) and education; and discrimination. Children have frequently witnessed or suffered violence, and boys have been forcibly separated from their mothers. Many of these acts are likely to constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The Syrian Interim Government's commitment to return Syrians to their homes is a welcome and necessary step in ending these grave and traumatic violations and addressing the ongoing security risks. The Principles in this document can help to translate this commitment into effective, human rights-compliant measures of return, rehabilitation and reintegration, and to shape appropriate international assistance to the Syrian authorities.

Principles

Principle 1: Compliance with international and domestic law

All measures for the return, rehabilitation and reintegration, and investigation and prosecution, of Syrian nationals detained in North-East Syria must comply with international law, including human rights law and humanitarian law, and international counter-terrorism standards.[7]

Returns should be governed by a transparent and detailed domestic legal framework and procedures, ensuring due process, independent monitoring, judicial safeguards and effective remedies for any violations of human rights committed during the return process. All measures taken must be gender sensitive, make the best interests of children a primary consideration, maintain or restore family unity, and prevent re-traumatization and re-victimization.

Principle 2: Individual assessment and screening

Potential returnees should be individually assessed to determine their place of origin, pathway to detention in North-East Syria, affiliation (if any) with terrorist or armed groups, whether they were victims of violations by armed groups or State actors, and personal circumstances.[8]

Measures of assistance and protection throughout the return, rehabilitation and reintegration process must be tailored to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of individuals and families. Relevant factors include age, gender, health status, disability, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status, political opinion, tribal affiliation, sexual orientation, and conflict and detention-related trauma. Special care must be taken to identify victims of sexual and gender-based violence, trafficking in persons, and slavery.

For individuals with alleged links to ISIL or other armed groups, assessments must consider the individual's conduct, avoid assumptions of terrorist affiliation based solely on family ties, and distinguish between perpetrators, facilitators, and victims.[9] Individuals suspected of international crimes must be referred for investigation and prosecution, in accordance with international law. Where individuals are empirically assessed to present a continuing terrorist risk, tailored, specialized, multidisciplinary responses to mitigate risks should be pursued,[10] including administrative measures where appropriate.[11]

Principle 3: Voluntariness, freedom from coercion, and informed consent

All returns must be voluntary, free from coercion, and guided by informed consent.[12] Procedures to obtain and verify informed consent must take into account vulnerabilities, including age, gender and disability. The free and informed consent of parents or guardians must be sought before separating children for return, unless separation is in the child's best interests.[13] Structural limitations on the agency of women that may affect consent must be considered, including social hierarchies and the attitudes of male relatives and communities.

Comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date, and accessible information campaigns concerning the conditions in return areas must be provided before obtaining consent, including as regards security, access to services, risks of discrimination and exposure to prosecution. Special efforts should be made to ensure the full participation of detainees in the planning and management of their return or resettlement and reintegration.[14]

Principle 4: Return to place of origin or relocation

Individuals should be returned to their homes or places of habitual residence where it is safe to do so, the living conditions meet international standards, and the person wishes to return. The assessment of safety and protection should consider the general security situation, any specific risks to individuals from State or non-State actors, the receptiveness of local communities, and the level of protection available from State security forces. Assessments of safety should be based on multiple credible sources, including family interviews and human rights monitoring by the United Nations and civil society organizations.

Where a person cannot be safely returned to their place of origin, they should be offered resettlement in a safe place elsewhere in Syria (including North-East Syria), taking into account family ties and support networks. Humanitarian settlement abroad should be considered where there protection concerns within Syria cannot be mitigated, there are particular vulnerabilities, or the balance of family reunification lies abroad.

Principle 5: Safe and dignified returns

Returns must occur in conditions of safety and dignity.[15] Physical safety requires protecting returnees from physical harm (including armed attacks, landmines and unexploded ordinance), discrimination, reprisals and arbitrary detention upon arrival. Legal safety may require guarantees of non-prosecution, personal safety and security and non-discrimination. Returns with dignity require refraining from arbitrary separation of family members, respectful treatment by authorities, and the full restoration of their legal rights.[16]

Effective coordination must take place between the detaining authorities in North-East Syria and the Syrian Interim Government to facilitate secure transport routes and reception points,[17] and to use armed escorts as necessary. Special measures of protection may be necessary for unaccompanied women and children.

Principle 6: Access to civil documentation

Returnees should be provided with access to official documentation, including birth certifications and identity and education documents, that enable them to exercise their human rights and rights as citizens to health, education, social services and nationality and to prevent discrimination and exclusion.[18] This may include recognizing civil documentation issued by non-State actors as valid to obtain official Syrian documentation.[19]

Principle 7: Humanitarian assistance

Returnees must be provided with humanitarian assistance for as long as necessary, including food, water, sanitation, shelter, clothing, medical care and medicines, and protection (including child protection and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence). Syrian authorities have the primary responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance. Where the Syrian authorities are unable to provide the necessary assistance, they must permit unimpeded access by independent humanitarian actors, in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, and impartiality.[20] Returnees are entitled to assistance without discrimination, irrespective of their perceived status or affiliation or past affiliation with armed groups.

Ongoing assessment must facilitate an accurate understanding of humanitarian needs before, during and after returns as well as during rehabilitation and reintegration, from a gender- and child-competent perspective. Humanitarian assistance must reach not only urban but also rural areas, since many returnees came from rural areas that were already severely economically deprived before the armed conflict began in 2012. Humanitarian actors should be given adequate notice of planned returns to enable them to effectively assist and protect returnees.[21]

Principle 8: Sustainable reintegration

Reintegration involves restoring national protection, economic self-reliance, and social cohesion, which extend beyond immediate aid to long-term community support. Sustainable reintegration is essential to protect the rights of returnees, prevent further displacement,[22] and protect against radicalization or recidivism where relevant. Effective reintegration must address any structural reasons that led individuals to associate with ISIL, including insecurity, weak governance, economic deprivation, and impunity for human rights violations.

Returnees must be adequately supported for sufficient time to enable them to rebuild their lives and re-establish themselves socially, economically, and legally in their communities. Elements of reintegration should include healthcare (mental and physical), employment and livelihood opportunities, education and vocational training, financial assistance, support for housing and land, property restitution or compensation,[23] family support and interventions, and social cohesion measures. Special measures may be needed for women heads of household,[24] persons with disabilities, the elderly and children. The Syrian Interim Government should ensure effective cooperation among relevant State, civil society, private, and international actors.

Principle 9: Inclusive communities and social cohesion

Sustainable reintegration should support communities receiving returnees, which have often suffered from the physical, psychological and economic impacts of armed conflict, non-State violence and repression by the former Al-Assad government. Such support can defuse grievances which can undermine the reintegration of returnees or even ignite violence.[25] Community support should entail inclusive and sustainable development and restore social and economic infrastructure, including health services, water and sanitation, energy and housing.

The support of communities and family members is critical to successful reintegration and to prevent risks of radicalization.[26] The Syrian Interim Government should partner with relevant actors to foster community acceptance of returnees and prevent discrimination, including local authorities, community leaders, health and education providers, social workers, faith-based organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media.[27] Multidisciplinary teams can help to assess cases and promote social reintegration.[28] Independent telephone helplines, local contact points, and family support units can provide counselling, support, and information to family members of returnees and local community members.

Principle 10: Victims of sexual and gender-based violence

Victims of sexual and gender-based violence committed by members of terrorist groups must be recognized as victims irrespective of their perceived status or affiliation with such groups. Victims of sexual and gender-based violence by other actors must be equally recognized, including by State actors, de facto authorities, armed groups, and other private actors, including

within the family. Forms of sexual violence include rape, slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization, forced abortion, mutilation, torture, harassment and forced nudity. Other forms of gender-based violence include forced marriage, abductions, persecution (including based on gender identity and sexual orientation), denial of reproductive rights, restrictions on movement and dress, and targeted and "honour" killings. Measures should be taken to encourage victims to feel confident to safely report their experiences.

Victims of sexual and gender-based violence require tailored, comprehensive and multidisciplinary assistance and protection, including specialized sexual and reproductive healthcare care, counselling and psychological support, with full respect for privacy and confidentiality.[29] Assistance must be gender sensitive and victim-centred.[30] Victims must also be protected from stigmatization, social exclusion and marginalization upon return.[31]

Principle 11: Women's rights and equality

The return, rehabilitation and reintegration processes should be gender-competent, taking into account the distinctive ways that women and girls have experienced terrorism (whether as victims, facilitators or perpetrators), armed conflict and counter-terrorism measures,[32] including protracted arbitrary and inhuman detention in North-East Syria. Measures should be taken to protect women from institutional, social and family discrimination upon return; support female heads of household (including where husbands have disappeared, been killed, or are still detained); guarantee property and inheritance rights, including by ensuring access to justice and legal aid; provide tailored medical and psychosocial support; ensure separate accommodation where applicable; protect against sexual and gender-based violence; and provide women's empowerment, livelihood and networking opportunities. State security forces should ensure that sufficient female personnel are visible and accessible in communities, and there should be a government focal point in communities for returnees, and an alternative non-governmental focal point for those who distrust State authorities.[33]

Principle 12: Child protection

Child returnees should be treated primarily as victims of human rights abuses and violations, including as a result of association with terrorist groups and arbitrary detention in inhuman conditions by de facto authorities. The best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in all actions concerning them,[34] children must be consulted on decisions affecting them, and children's rights must be guaranteed throughout the return process. Best Interest Determinations (BID) by trained professionals should be undertaken to individually assess risks to children and ensure adequate protection,[35] taking into account their age and developmental stage. Family unity should be preserved in the return process, unless a child is at risk of severe abuse or neglect by parents.[36] Where alternative care is necessary, preference should be given to kinship and family-based options rather than institutional care.[37]

The rehabilitation and reintegration of children linked to ISIL must be prioritized, in line with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. This includes access to age and gender appropriate services, such as mental health and psychosocial support, education and vocational training, and legal assistance.[38] Many children detained in North-East Syria have been excluded from structured education for much of even all of their lives, and their right to education must be prioritized to empower them to fulfil their potential and to resocialize them and combat radicalization risks.

Assistance should be multidisciplinary, victim-centred and respect children's autonomy and religious and cultural identities. Measures must be taken to respect the privacy and confidentiality of such children to prevent stigmatization.[39]

Principle 13: Rehabilitation and prevention

Any interventions to address risks of participation in terrorism or violent radicalization should be based on individualized assessments, including as regards their intent and capacity to commit terrorism and its likelihood and gravity, and utilizing empirically valid risk assessment tools applied by trained experts who are subject to professional, independent oversight.[40] All relevant factors should be considered, including mitigating circumstances such as evidence of remorse, renunciation or disengagement, deradicalization and rehabilitation, and support networks. Interventions must be consistent with international and national law and avoid discriminatory profiling,[41] including based on the mere fact of prior association with ISIL or detention in North-East Syria.

Any interventions must be tailored to the individual's circumstances, including age, gender and mental health, and be multidisciplinary by engaging law enforcement, families, communities, faith-based organizations and civil society actors.[42] Interventions that restrict human rights must be necessary, proportionate, non-discriminatory and subject to independent review, including effective judicial remedies. Preventive administrative measures may be used where they are authorized by law and aim to prevent the commission of terrorist violence; they must be the least invasive means, including by considering alternative voluntary, social and rehabilitative measures; and they must be applied individually, based on a high standard of proof.[43] Children should only be subject to administrative measures as a last resort and should be dealt with by alternative means, such as child protection and juvenile justice authorities.

Principle 14: Accountability for violations

Where an individual detained in North-East Syria is suspected of having committed an international crime or other serious violation of international human rights law, measures must be taken to ensure accountability in accordance with international law. Such measures should be integrated into the wider transitional justice process in Syria.[44] Indefinite, mass administrative detention, including on security grounds, should be promptly brought to an end.

International humanitarian law encourages post-conflict amnesties for those who took part in hostilities, but they must not be available for international crimes or other serious human rights violations.[45] In addition to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration frameworks (DDR), Security Council resolutions require States to implement "prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration" strategies for those suspected of terrorist acts, including "foreign terrorist fighters", and to undertake comprehensive risk assessments for these purposes,[46] in full compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

While there is no binding international definition of terrorism, according to best practice international standards the focus of investigation for terrorist crimes should be on acts that intentionally inflict death or serious injury on non-combatants, or hostage taking, for a terrorist purpose, thus largely overlapping with war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide. Mere association with a group listed as terrorist, including in a combat role, does not of itself constitute a terrorist crime, absent personal participation in terrorist acts as properly defined.[47]

Individuals should not be prosecuted based on mere family links or mere association with ISIL or any other designated terrorist organization or non-State armed group.[48] Where Syrian women or children are personally suspected of having committed international crimes, international legal standards on criminal justice must be fully respected, including fair trial before an independent and impartial civilian court.

To assist in ensuring fair trial during the political transition in Syria, the authorities should consider international assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial reform, and cooperate with international evidence gathering bodies.[49]

Criminal justice and prisons should be gender sensitive, protect women prisoners from sexual and gender-based violence, and respect relevant international standards.[50]

Those suspected of committing crimes when they were children should be treated primarily as victims. In accordance with Syrian and international law, the juvenile justice system should be used for children who have reached Syria's age of criminal responsibility (15 years).[51] Domestic law must not define a different (lower) age of criminal responsibility for international crimes or terrorism or national security offences. Detention of children must be a last resort and for the shortest possible time. They must be separated from adult detainees except to prevent family separation where it is not possible to release the parent or guardian.

Penalties must be proportionate to the gravity of the offence and all relevant mitigating factors must be fully considered. The death penalty and life imprisonment without parole must not be imposed. The authorities are encouraged to introduce rehabilitative measures before, during or after criminal proceedings,[52] while ensuring that there is no impunity for international crimes.

Principle 15: Preventing statelessness

The Syrian authorities should take all necessary measures to prevent statelessness and protect the right to nationality, including by ensuring all relevant civil documentation is recognised and reissued and all legal barriers are removed.[53] The human right to a name,[54] an identity and a nationality entitles women to bestow their nationality onto their children. Legal hurdles faced by women whose husbands are deceased or disappeared must be re-evaluated in light of changes in society after the armed conflict and the change in government. The authorities must accept children born to their nationals, grant them nationality, and prevent them from becoming stateless. Syria should consider becoming a party to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons 1954 and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness 1961.

Principle 16: Independent monitoring and evaluation

Independent monitoring is crucial to verify compliance with international law throughout the return process and address any concerns promptly,[55] and should be used to track the progress of returnees. In cooperation with the Syrian authorities, UNHCR, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, or other relevant United Nations actors should be involved in overseeing return, rehabilitation and reintegration, with adequate access to returnees, reception and detention facilities, and local communities. Programme performance and sustainability should be periodically evaluated, and adjusted as needed, with regular engagement with civil society and private sector partners.[56]

Principle 17: International assistance and burden sharing

Member States and the United Nations should cooperate with the Syrian authorities to:

(a) facilitate safe and durable returns in full conformity with international law and best practice standards, including by offering technical assistance, providing adequate humanitarian and development funding, and monitoring implementation to ensure human rights compliance; and

(b) support independent investigations into all international crimes and serious violations of human rights relating to those detained or returned from North-East Syria, whether such persons were victims or perpetrators, and including violations by the de facto authorities in North-East Syria (such as arbitrary detention and ill-treatment in detention). Such investigations should form part of a wider transitional justice strategy to ensure comprehensive accountability for violations during the Syrian civil war.

All States of nationality of other individuals detained in North-East Syria must urgently facilitate the repatriation of their own nationals, in accordance with international law.[57]

Endnotes

[1] See also Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, "Punishing the Innocent: Ending Violations against Children in Northeast Syria", 20 March 2024.
[2] United Nations Key Principles for the Protection, Repatriation, Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration (PRR) of Women and Children with Links to United Nations Listed Terrorist Groups 2019; United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement 1998; UNHCR Guidelines on Voluntary Repatriation: International Protection 1996; UNHCR Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration Activities 2004; Global Counter-Terrorism Forum (GCTF), The Hague – Marrakech Memorandum on Good Practices for a More Effective Response to the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon 2014 and Addendum 2016; GCTF, Good Practices on Addressing the Challenge of Returning Families of Foreign Terrorist Fighters 2018; Security Council Guiding Principles on Foreign Terrorist Fighters: The 2015 Madrid Guiding Principles + 2018 Addendum, S/2015/939 and S/2018/1177; United Nations Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism 2022; United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, Handbook: Children Affected by the Foreign-fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-based Approach 2019; United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Position Paper on the Rights of Children in Contexts affected by Counter-Terrorism 2023.
[3] Including 3,826 children, 2,235 women and 597 men.
[4] https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-2025-august-21/.
[5] A/78/520, paras. 49-54 and 77-82; Technical Visit to the Northeast of the Syrian Arab Republic 2023, https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/terrorism/sr/statements/EoM-Visit-to-Syria-20230721.pdf; and numerous other outputs: https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-terrorism/detention-and-repatriations-north-east-syria.
[6] Including the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and NGOs.
[7] UN Key Principles on PRR (including Security Council resolutions 2178, 2396 and 2427).
[8] See also UN Key Principles on PRR; GCTF Good Practices; Madrid Guiding Principles and Addendum.
[9] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[10] Addendum to The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum, Recommendation 2.
[11] Madrid Guiding Principles, Principle 31.
[12] UNHCR Handbook on Voluntary Repatriation, chapters 2.3 and 4.

[13] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[14] Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Principle 28(2).
[15] UNHCR Handbook on Voluntary Repatriation, chapter 2.4; Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Principle 28.
[16] UNHCR Handbook on Voluntary Repatriation, 2.4.
[17] UNHCR Handbook on Voluntary Repatriation, Ch. 6.5.
[18] Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, above note 1, 15.
[19] Ibid.
[20] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[21] Comm inquiry, 15.
[22] Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, section 5; UNHCR Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration Activities, Box 1.1 and Module 6.
[23] Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Principle 29(2).
[24] UN Key Principles on PRR, Specific Principles on Women.
[25] UNHCR Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration Activities, 4Rs framework (Repatriation, Reintegration, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction).
[26] Addendum to The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum, Recommendation 4.
[27] Ibid; GCTF Good Practices, GP 18.
[28] UNHCR Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration Activities, 4Rs framework.
[29] UN Key Principles on PRR; Model Legislative Provisions, article 30(1).
[30] Model Legislative Provisions, article 29(1).
[31] See Model Legislative Provisions, article 30(2).
[32] See also GCTF Good Practices, GP 16.
[33] Ibid.
[34] Convention on the Rights of the Child, article 3(1).
[35] UN Key Principles on PRR; GCTF Good Practices, GP 11.
[36] Convention on the Rights of the Child, article 9(1).
[37] See United Nations Guidelines for Alternative Care of Children 2010.
[38] GCTF Good Practices, GP 14.
[39] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[40] See also Madrid Guiding Principles, GP 40.
[41] Ibid.
[42] GCTF Good Practices, GP 19; The Hague – Marrakech Memorandum; Madrid Guiding Principles, GP 46.
[43] See the forthcoming report on administrative measures of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to the 80th session of the General Assembly 2025. See also Addendum to The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum, Recommendation 7.
[44] Communication from Special Procedures mandate holders, SYR 1/2025, 26 March 2025, https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownLoadPublicCommunicationFile?gId=29777.
[45] Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards, 2.11.
[46] Security Council resolution 2178 (20145) and 2396 (2017), and also Madrid Guiding Principles.
[47] In addition, best practice international standards exclude from "terrorism" the activities of armed forces, including non-state armed groups, in armed conflict governed by international humanitarian law.
[48] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[49] Including the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Daesh (UNITAD), and the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the investigation and prosecution of persons responsible for the most serious crimes under International Law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 (IIIM).
[50] GCTF Good Practices, GP 15. See especially United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders 2010 and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners 2015.
[51] Juvenile Delinquents Act (Law No. 18 of 1974).
[52] Addendum to The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum, Recommendation 6.
[53] UN Key Principles on PRR.
[54] International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 24(2); Convention on the Rights of the Child, articles 7-8.
[55] UNHCR Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration Activities, Module 6; UNHCR Handbook on Voluntary Repatriation, chapter 6.1-6.2.
[56] Addendum to The Hague-Marrakech Memorandum, Recommendation 5; GCTF Good Practices, GP 7.
[57] *P.D. v. France*, Communication No. 1045/2020, Committee against Torture, 3 November 2023.