Ministry for Asylum and Migration updates country policy on Syria

The Ministry for Asylum and Migration sent an updated country policy for Syria to the House of Representatives. Since June 2025, the moratorium on Syria has been lifted, which means that rejected asylum seekers can in principle be returned provided that the individual security situation allows it. The updated policy maintains this and adds that the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) will assess on a case by case basis whether an asylum seeker can move to a safe part of Syria to evade the risk. This is a shift from the previous policy whereby it was assumed that internal protection alternative was not possible.

Additionally, the policy includes Druze as a specific risk profile following serious escalations of violence in the province of Suweida in the summer of 2025 targeting Druze civilians and shrines. The updated policy also states that the situation in Syria has not yet stabilised sufficiently to be able to proceed with a reassessment of existing residence permits.

Source(s)

- Government | Rijksoverheid (22 April, 2026), Minister Van den Brink actualiseert landenbeleid Syrië [Minister Van den Brink updates Syria's country policy], https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2026/04/22/minister-van-den-brink-actualiseert-landenbeleid-syrie

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