

Foundation for the Development of Western Syria

February 16, 2026

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
United States Senate
211 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Senator Graham,

I write to you on behalf of the Foundation for the Development of Western Syria (“Foundation”) to express our sincere appreciation for your steadfast support for the Kurdish people and for all vulnerable minorities in Syria, including the Alawite, Christian, and Druze communities. Your consistent advocacy has given hope to many civilians who fear that the post-conflict period could bring renewed persecution rather than reconciliation.

The Foundation has been actively engaged in the defense of minority communities and the promotion of stability and coexistence in western Syria. We represent a broad segment of mainstream civil society and work alongside Alawite, Christian, and other community leaders to prevent sectarian violence, encourage local dialogue, and advocate internationally for the protection of civilians.

In this spirit, the Foundation would be honored to invite you to co-sponsor a commemorative event marking the one-year anniversary of the March 2025 massacres targeting Alawite and Christian civilians in northwestern and coastal Syria. We would be deeply grateful if you would also consider serving as the keynote speaker for the event, where your voice would carry great moral and political significance for survivors and their families.

Finally, I understand you are scheduled to visit the United Arab Emirates in the near future. I am an Alawite businessman residing in the UAE and would be honored to briefly meet with you at your convenience during your visit to discuss the situation of minorities in Syria, particularly of the Alawites on the coast since the massacre of March 2025, and the Foundation’s ongoing efforts.

Thank you again for your leadership and continued commitment to protecting Syria’s diverse communities. I look forward to the possibility of working together.

Respectfully,



Mohammad Shabaan
President
Foundation for the Development of Western Syria

<https://www.westernsyriadevelopment.org/>

From: Milan Dalal <milan@tigerhillpartners.com>
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 12:26 PM
To: "ryan_geary@lgraham.senate.gov" <ryan_geary@lgraham.senate.gov>
Subject: Invitation + letter thanking Sen. Graham

Hi Ryan,

I hope you're well! I'm writing on behalf of the Foundation for the Development of Western Syria, a NGO that is focused on protecting minorities, including the Kurds, Alawites, Christians, and Druze, in Syria. Attached is a letter from the Foundation's President thanking the Senator for his leadership on this critical issue.

Additionally, the letter asks if Sen. Graham would consider co-hosting and/or briefly speaking at an event marking the 1-year anniversary of the massacre of Christians and Alawites in northwestern Syria, which we are hoping to host on Capitol Hill in March (the week of March 9th). The event would feature academics, foreign policy experts, and members of the diaspora, discussing the need to protect minorities and have a stable and inclusive future for Syria. If you have a 5 minutes for a zoom this week, I would be happy to chat with you about what we have in mind.

Finally, the letter asks that if Sen. Graham is in the UAE, if he'd be willing to meet with the Foundation's President. I'm happy to connect you if this is of interest.

Thanks for taking a look!

Best,
Milan

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