

Syria/Iraq: Amnesty International condemns the summary killing of David Haines by Islamic State

Amnesty International condemns the summary killing of David Haines by members of the armed group that calls itself the Islamic State (IS) on 13 September 2014 as a war crime that displays this group's contempt for the most basic principles of humanity.

David Haines, a Briton aged 44, was working for the ACTED aid organization when he was captured in March 2013. According to ACTED, he was working to support displaced Syrians in Atmeh camp in Idlib governorate.

In recent weeks and months IS has committed war crimes and grave human rights abuses in Iraq and Syria. It has summarily killed civilians, including hundreds of members of ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq, and beheaded two US journalists. It has also been responsible for the summary killings of hundreds of captured members of the security forces of Iraq, Syria, and of two Lebanese soldiers.

Amnesty International reiterates its call for the immediate release of all civilians held by IS and for humane treatment, in accordance with the rules of international humanitarian law, for captured members of the security forces.