

SOHR booklet

SOHR booklet, comprising **17** reports with infographics, summarises all key developments in Syria in 2024



المرصد السوري لحقوق الإنسان



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SOHR

Introduction

For years, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has been striving for the freedom of Syria and fulfilling Syrian people's demands to retrieve their nation from the grip of warlords who looted its assets and depleted its resources at a time when Syrians were optioned only to accept a disastrous situation or to die and be killed by the most horrific ways.

Since it was founded in 2006, five years before the beginning of the Syrian Revolution, and with the help of a broad network of correspondents and activists, the Syrian Observatory has focused on highlighting the tragedies and sufferings of the Syrian people and disclosing and documenting crimes and violations against humanity.

The scores of intimidation attempts and smear campaigns by the deposed regime against the Syrian Observatory have all failed to hinder its efforts and goals to highlight the plight of the oppressed Syrians who were besieged in a nation lacks the minimum livelihood under the rule of a tyrannical regime that could not care less about the people of Syria.

Believing in the promotion of humanitarian principles and believing in the peaceful revolution and the legitimate rights of Syrian people to enjoy decent standards of living in a democratic country ensuring freedom and equality for people of all backgrounds (ethnic, sectarian and religious), the Syrian Observatory has exerted desperate efforts to document violations and crimes committed by the deposed regime and its Shabiha and other proxy militias since the first spark of the Syrian Revolution.

With Bashar Al-Assad remained clinging only to power for nearly 14 years after the onset of the peaceful revolution which was turned into the most violent war ever in the 21st Century, SOHR has disclosed and documented scores of massacres and thousands of unimaginably horrific violations against humanity.

Disregards the considerable difficulties and challenging obstacles it faced in 2024, the Syrian Observatory has kept going with its duty and continued disclosing human rights violations committed by all conflicting parties in Syrian territory. Also, SOHR was able to highlight the plight of the free Syrians who could finally gain victory, despite all attempts and efforts aimed at dispersing Syrians away from the fundamentals of their revolution and changing the map of alliances and power balances for the benefit of the criminal regime.


In 2024, SOHR published 10,378 news articles, nearly 1,166 reports and tens of exclusive interviews with politicians, human rights activists, artists and military commanders. Meanwhile, local and international press and media agencies cited SOHR articles on more than 5,789 occasions. Also, SOHR's director, Mr. Rami Abdulrahman, participated in 1,080 interviews on numerous international TV channels and radio stations.

SOHR has compiled its booklet, comprising 17 reports with infographics, to summarise all key developments in Syria in 2024 with the aim of highlighting the plight of Syrian people through presenting all violations and crimes committed against them.

Syrian Observatory for Human Rights in 2024



Syrian Observatory for Human Rights in 2024

-  **10,378**
News articles
-  **1,166**
SOHR reports
-  **1,080**
Interviews by SOHR director on various TV channels and radio stations



Local and international press and media agencies citing SOHR articles on more than **5,789** occasions

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Syrian Observatory for Human Rights

المركز السوري لحقوق الإنسان

Including over 18,000 civilians | SOHR verifies the death of 21,402 people across Syria in 2024

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) documented the death of 21,402 people in 2024. SOHR has verified the death of over 14,000 people of the total death toll under torture in prisons of the former regime through official documents found in those prisons following the fall of Al-Assad's regime.

A breakdown of these fatalities, according to the perpetrator and method of death categories, is as follows:

-Civilians: 18,223 people, including 337 children under the age of 18, and 240 women over the age of 18, and they are as follows:

- 14,625 civilians died under torture in prisons of the former regime.
- 271 civilians, including 48 children and 22 women, were killed in indiscriminate gunfire and infightings.
- 19 civilians, including three children, were killed by jihadists.
- 47 civilians, including six children and four women, were killed by rebel and Islamist factions.
- 39 civilians, including 16 children and eight women, were killed in airstrikes by fighter jets and helicopters of the former regime.
- 1,428 civilians, including eight children and nine women, were killed in unknown circumstances.
- 239 civilians, including 69 children and 31 women, were killed

by explosions of old ordnance.

- 135 civilians, including 39 children and 18 women, were killed in bombardment and gunfire by former regime forces.
- 160 civilians, including four women, were extrajudicially executed.
- 567 civilians, including 43 children and 95 women, were murdered.
- One man was killed by International Coalition Forces.
- Nine civilians, including four children and one woman, died of poor health conditions.
- 88 civilians, including 16 children and seven woman, were killed in Russian airstrikes.
- 14 civilians, including two children and a woman, were killed by explosions of booby-trapped vehicles.
- One civilian died under torture in factions' prisons.
- 106 civilians, including three children and three woman, were killed by ISIS.
- 85 civilians, including 13 children and 16 women, were killed in Israeli attacks.
- 90 civilians, including 18 children and ten women, were killed in airstrikes and bombardment by Turkish forces.
- 33 civilians, including three children and six women, were killed by Jordanian forces.

- 18 civilians, including three children, were killed by the Turkish border guards (Jandarma).
- 63 civilians, including 27 children and three women, were killed by explosions of landmines and IEDs.
- 123 civilians, including five children, were shot dead by unidentified persons.
- 41 civilians, including seven children and one woman, were killed by Syria Democratic Forces (SDF).
- 21 civilians, including four children and one woman, were killed in other circumstances.

-Non-civilians: 3,179:

- Members of rebel and Islamist factions: 493
- Members of Syria Democratic Forces (SDF) and affiliated military formations: 318
- Members of Kurdish units: 20
- Members of former regime forces: 944
- Militiamen loyal to the former regime: 316
- Iranian-backed Syrian militiamen: 322
- Iranian-backed non-Syrian militiamen: 183
- Hezbollah: 58
- Russian soldiers: 2

- **Jihadists: 330**
- **ISIS members: 112**
- **Others: 81**

The Syrian Observatory renew its commitment to continue monitoring and documenting all the developments on the ground in Syria including, the massacres, violations, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed against the Syrian people, as well as publishing all relevant statistics and casualties of such heinous acts, and hope to help all the ongoing efforts of bringing the perpetrators to special international courts so that they do not escape justice for the crimes they committed against the people of Syria.

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, call for referring all criminals, perpetrators and all those who aided and abetted heinous crimes and violations against Syrian people to international courts to ensure fair trials.

Fatalities across Syria in 2024



SOHR verified the death of **18,223** people across Syria in 2024



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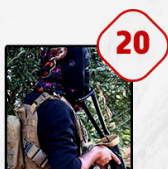
Syrian Observatory For Human Rights



SOHR documented the death of **3,179** non-civilians in different circumstances in 2024



Former regime forces



Kurdish units



SDF



Rebel and Islamist factions



Hezbollah



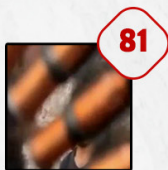
Iranian-backed non-Syrian
militiamen



Iranian-backed Syrian
militiamen



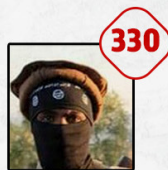
Militiamen loyal to the former
regime



Others



ISIS



Jihadists



Russian soldiers

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Nearly 230 civilian women killed in 2024 | Syrian women: another year of usurped rights and ongoing sufferings and better future awaiting

The major role and effective participation of Syrian women in the Syrian Revolution since the first day of peaceful demonstrations in March 2011 are undeniable. They devoted themselves to defend their homeland and never fed up with calling for dignity, democracy, equality and freedom. Even before the onset of the Syrian Revolution, Syrian women have been all along present the scene and they have bravely countered injustice and repression practiced by the tyrannical regime and its security forces, and they undoubtedly have a major role in the liberation of Syria from the rule of Al-Assad who turned Damascus into a private colony dominated only by his family and a den for parasites and cronies close to the ruling class and its “Shabiha.”

Despite heavy losses, Syrian women have not surrendered and desperately resisted injustice and oppression practiced by the deposed regime, disregarding intimidation and death threats against them and their children and families. Moreover, they kept clinging bitterly to hope, waiting for victory and liberation to participate in establishing the new Syria where they and all Syrian people can enjoy dignity and freedom.

In a conflict-torn nation that has experienced destructive intervention by foreign powers with 90 percent of whose people living below the poverty line, according to the United Nations’ statistics, Syrian women have struggled with hunger, illness, extreme poverty, indiscriminate and displacement, and they endured oppression and torture in prisons where many could not survive.

For over 14 years after the onset of the Syrian Revolution, which has been turned by the deposed regime into the most violent war in the 21st Century, as the United Nations described, Syrian women have suffered greatly and faced unbeatable challenges to survive with their families. After liberation of Syria, women eagerly wait for reaching leading positions and participate in the upcoming national dialogue.

Since early 2024, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has documented the death of 227 women in all zones of influence across Syria; they are distributed as follows:

- **92 were murdered.**
- **27 killed by explosions of old ordnance.**
- **22 killed in indiscriminate gunfire and infightings.**
- **18 killed in gunfire and bombardment by former regime forces.**
- **16 killed in Israeli strikes.**
- **Ten killed in bombardment by Turkish forces.**
- **Nine killed in unknown circumstances.**
- **Eight killed in airstrikes by aircraft of the former regime.**
- **Six killed by Jordanian border guards.**
- **Four killed by rebels.**
- **Three killed in Russian airstrikes.**
- **Three killed by ISIS.**

- Three killed in the explosion of landmines and IEDs.
- Two extrajudicially executed.
- One died of poor health conditions.
- One killed by an explosion of a booby-trapped car.
- One killed by SDF.
- One killed in other circumstances.

It is worth noting that SOHR documented the death of 241 Syrian women in 2024.

For over 14 years, Syrian women have not given up and showed desperate resistance to reach their legitimate rights and demands, namely freedom, dignity and democracy, although they endured significant injustice, oppression and starvation practiced by the Syrian regime and its affiliates to obliterate the identity of Syrian women and wipe their dreams out.

Today, Syrian women are looking forward to gaining their rights and getting their demands fulfilled.

With almost-complete lack of support by the international community and regional authorities, Syrian women endured extreme violence by all conflicting powers in Syria, while women in refugee camps struggled with dreadful living conditions, especially with obstacles hindering the delivery of food, water and medicines.

Moreover, starvation and poverty have pushed Syrian women to join labour markets, so that they can be provided for their families at a time when breadwinners were fighting on battlefields, where they have faced violence and social challenges and had no options but to accept hard work outside the legal framework; this, in turn, let women to fall victims of harassment and sexual exploitation by employers, Shabiha and mafias of informal labour.

However, Syrian women have chosen not to bow to those obstacles and challenges and clung bitterly to earn their living without offering concessions or giving up their dignity. Accordingly, many women turned to establish small projects, disregarding the low income, such as selling sweets, deserts and fast food meals, making winter clothes using worn and used clothes, and crocheting.

In a male-dominated society, Syrian women have proved their power to resist and beat challenges, and their role in the liberation of Syria cannot be deniable. They refused to stay and watch their homeland being devastating and their beloved dying of starvation and coercion, so they have desperately fought masculinity and patriarchal ideology which is at the heart of the most segments of the Syrian society, believing in their abilities to make a difference.

After schools and universities have been destroyed and put out of service, and hundreds of thousands of families having been forced to live in refugee camps and devastated houses, women decided not to bequeath ignorance and illiteracy to children, where many volunteered to learn children, especially girls who have dropped out of schools of concerns by their families about being kidnapped, raped or killed by Shabiha. Those efforts and successes reflect glorious sacrifices and extraordinary courage.

Syrian and non-Syrian organisations have confirmed that illiteracy among children in refugee camps in north Syria has increased to 50%, while nearly 80% of children have not graduated from high schools. Those shocking statistics reflect the disastrous situation in a country where the percentage of illiteracy had been the lowest in the Arab World.

Al-Assad's regime sought to drive Syrian people to illiteracy, attempting to subjugate people and force them to accept the dire situation under its dictatorship, disregarding the future of Syria. Accordingly, former regime forces and their allies concentrated their attacks on educational institutions. However, this plan has not beaten the will of Syrian women who remained clinging to hope, and now, after the glorious victory of the Syrian revolution, women and girls who failed to attain education will join schools and make their future.

Since 2011, Syrian women have inflicted heavy losses, after having taken to the streets alongside with men to express their support to the Syrian Revolution, where they have faced extreme violence by security and military forces. Neither repression nor live fire, which left thousands of protestors dead, intimidated Syrian women who remained adherent to their dream, and today, they are celebrating their victory in every inch of Syria.

Attempting to revenge this unexpected resistance by Syrian women, regime forces turned to arbitrarily arrest and torture them in prisons that were more akin to Guantanamo detention centre.

The Syrian Observatory has documented horrific stories told of by some women who were arbitrarily arrested, humiliated and tortured by former regime forces, where many were given electric shocks, get their heads shaved and were raped by prison guards to force them to confess to crimes that they did not commit, report about places where revolutionaries were hiding or exert pressure on their relatives.

One example, among many, was the story of the young director, Mayson, who told SOHR activists that she partly lost her memory due to the brutal torture she endured in prisons. The young woman said that she was hearing cries by other women in cells next to hers, while being tortured and begging to guards not to rape them. Many female survivors, mainly those who were raped in regime prisons, feel “shame” and could not face the male-dominated society which unjustifiably assigns the responsibility for “violating morals and values” to these women: the victims, and many have already thought of committing suicide.

Only punishment and accountability can bring back dignity to those victims who will never give up their demand to bring Bashar Al-Assad and his Shabiha to justice for the unforgivable crimes they committed.

As a human rights Syrian organisation seeking to spread fundamentals of peace, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights calls upon the new administration in liberated Syria to prioritise addressing the importance of women’s role in the incoming stage and relies on the wise administration to allow them to take part in the national dialogue and reforms at all levels. SOHR would like to bring to mind the difficulties, sufferings and challenges that Syrian women have faced until the liberation of the homeland.

We, at SOHR, reaffirm that Syrian women have been all along resisting tyranny in their ways and seeking to establish a united Syria, and they have been resistance partners inside and outside Syria, so we call for tapping into the expertises of female Syrian refugees.

We also stress that accountability has to top the priorities of the transitional stage, so that criminals are tried and punished away from retaliation and Syrians can turn the page on the era of injustice and tyranny under the rule of Al-Assad's family that lasted for more than 50 years.

SOHR calls upon women to continue their struggle and exert their utmost efforts to construct a new Syria where all Syrian people of all backgrounds (ethnic, sectarian and religious) can enjoy equality, justice and democracy.

S O H R

Nearly 230 civilian women killed in 2024



231

civilian women killed in acts of violent across Syria in 2024



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 24.



2024 | 325 children killed in acts of violence in all zones of influence across Syria and 41 new-born babies found on roadside and in dumpsters

Syrian children have been affected the most by the war, where they have suffered from extreme poverty and starvation and struggled with other harsh and tragic conditions which have been by-products of the successive conflicts and military battles which lasted for nearly 14 years.

Children of this generation, who were born after and shortly before the Syrian Revolution which was turned by the deposed regime into the most violent war in the 21st Century, endured extreme violence which considerably affected them both physically and psychologically.

One of the most emotional videos circulated during the revolution showed a seven-year-old boy wishing to get a book, a notebook and a pen to write down his daily activity in a refugee camp, after he and his family having been forced to displace. He did not ask for food or clothes, but he asked for a book; this reflects his sorrow for being deprived of his right of education, after schools and child institutions having been destroyed in systematic bombardment and airstrikes by Al-Assad regime and its allies.

Al-Assad knew well that if he allowed children to attain education, then they would be turned into revolutionaries countering his repression and injustice peacefully and civilly, so he and his Shabiha exerted utmost efforts to create an uneducated and illiterate generation by destroying educational facilities and impoverishing and starving people.

The UNICEF had confirmed that 6,500,000 Syrian children have been in need of urgent humanitarian assistance, where they lack the minimum livelihood, such as food, water, clothes and shelter, where the most of them live in refugee camps. Today, after the liberation of Syria, those children are looking forward to returning to their homes and schools.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has documented the death of 325 children in all zones of influence throughout Syria during the period between January 1, 2024, and December 25, 2024, the date of publishing this report; they are distributed as follows:

- **67 killed by explosions of old ordnance.**
- **47 killed in indiscriminate gunfire and infightings.**
- **42 murdered.**
- **39 killed in gunfire and bombardment by regime forces.**
- **27 killed by explosions of landmines and IEDs.**
- **18 killed in attacks by Turkish forces.**
- **16 killed in airstrikes by regime fighter jets.**
- **13 killed in Israeli strikes.**
- **11 killed in Russian airstrikes.**
- **Seven killed in unknown circumstances.**
- **Seven killed by SDF.**
- **Five killed by factions.**

- **Four died of poor health conditions.**
- **Four shot dead by unknown gunmen.**
- **Three killed in Jordanian airstrikes.**
- **Three killed in gunfire by Turkish Jandarma.**
- **Three killed by ISIS.**
- **Three killed by jihadists.**
- **Two killed in car-bomb attacks.**
- **Four killed in other circumstances.**

Those shocking statistics reflect the dire situation of Syrian children who have fallen victims of exploitation by all conflicting powers and turned into a bargaining chip, especially with the “timid” efforts by international community and relevant organisation to exert pressure on all powers in Syria to keep children away from their conflicts.

In addition, children have been fallen victims of retaliatory actions and setting narrow accounts between families, factions and Shabiha, where mindless and merciless individuals turned to kidnap children and ask for ransoms or even kill them just for revenge.

Syrian children dream of enjoying security and stability away from the sound of bombardment, explosions and gunfire, while international community continues ignoring those simple demands.

The Syrian Observatory would like to bring to mind that nearly 26,000 Syrian children were killed since the onset of the Syrian Revolution in 2011, and appeals to the international community and all relevant authorities not to turn their back to this disastrous statistic and to prosecute every person involved, aided and/or abetted killing of Syrian children wherever they are.

Moreover, Syrian children have struggled with starvation and poverty, where Syria has experienced acute shortage of infant formula, after its price on markets having increased to an unprecedented level unaffordable by the many in light of the increasing rate of unemployment; this, in turn, spurred many parents to feed their babies water-diluted cow milk.

As the laws of war have been breached since 2011 by all conflicting powers that could not care less about protecting children, Syrian children have struggled with starvation and poverty and endured extreme violence due to the blatant violations and reprehensible practices by all factors. Meanwhile, many have found themselves homeless and were forced to stay in the open, after their families had lost their homes in bombardment and military battles or forced out from their residence for failing to pay rents.

All these tragedies have negatively affected children who have been embraced by panic and fear, and now, after the glorious victory, they are waiting for returning to their normal life as children having rights to live peacefully and attain appropriate education.

Not only Syrian children have suffered from poverty, hunger and thirst, but also many minor girls have been subjected to sexual exploitation and raping, while many others have been forced to marry at young ages. Many human rights and media reports have documented shocking stories of little girls who became mothers at very young ages, at a time when they were supposed to attain education at schools. It is worth noting that most of the students who had dropped out of school were females.

On the other hand, SOHR activists reported that new-born babies are left almost daily in dumpsters and on roads in all zones of influence, as their families abandon them, after having engaged in illegal relationships without marriage. Financial reasons also played a key role in spreading this phenomenon, were many parents have chosen to abandon their new-born babies, as they failed to secure infant formula for them in light of the dreadful living conditions and sky rocketing prices.

This phenomenon has grown dramatically in the past few years, where SOHR documented 41 cases of abandoned new-born babies across Syria in 2024, where they were left in dumpsters and plastic bags, in front of mosques and on the roadside; they are distributed as follows:

- **SDF-held areas: 20 babies, two of whom were found dead.**
- **HTS-controlled areas: Five babies.**
- **Areas that were under control of the deposed regime: 11 babies.**
- **“Euphrates Shield” area: Three babies.**
- **“Olive Branch” area: Two babies.**

Syrian children have also fallen victims of recruitments by military formations, where they were brainwashed by terrorist organisations, while girls were sexually exploited under “Jihad Al-Nikah.”

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), calls upon all international authorities to exert diligent efforts to bring all criminals and perpetrators and all those who aided and abetted killing Syrian children to justice and make sure that they will face the maximum penalty for their crimes.

We also call upon the caretaker government to prioritise addressing the rehabilitation of Syrian children who are the pillars of the new Syria.

The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 25.

S O H R

325 children killed in 2024



325

children killed in all zones of influence across Syria in 2024



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“Erdogan-Putin” area in 2024 | 182 civilians among 572 people killed in acts of violence and stunning fall of Al-Assad’s regime by “Deterrence of Aggression” operation launched from “de-escalation zone”

After 13 days of battles, the “Deterrence of Aggression” operation, which was launched by Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham and allied factions in late November 2024, terminated the “alleged” ceasefire agreed upon after a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on March 5, 2020.

For nearly five years after reaching the in-name-only agreement, the “de-escalation zone,” stretching from the north-eastern mountains of Latakia to the north-western suburbs of Aleppo city running through both Hama and Idlib, experienced continuous military escalation, before the stunning fall of Al-Assad’s regime and the escape of Bashar Al-Assad to Russia on December 8.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked all developments and violations against Syrian people in the “de-escalation zone” in 2024, including the military escalation by Russian and regime forces, incidents of security disorder, attack, deteriorating security instability and disastrous humanitarian situation. These key developments can be summarised in the following main points:

Acts of violence leave hundreds dead and wounded

In 2024, SOHR documented the death of 572 people in acts of violence in the “de-escalation zone”; the deaths are as follows:

-182 civilians, including 50 children and 21 women; they are as follows:

- **43 civilians, including 20 children and six women, were killed by regime forces.**
- **43 civilians, including eight women and six children, were killed in incidents of security disorder.**
- **Eight civilians were killed by Turkish Jandarma.**
- **28 civilians, including eight children, were killed by explosions of old ordnance.**
- **60 civilians, including 16 children and seven women, were killed in Russian airstrikes.**

-144 rebels and jihadists:

- **Six killed in Russian airstrikes**
- **103 killed in armed attacks and bombardment by regime ground forces.**
- **Nine killed in incidents of security disorder.**
- **Ten killed in airstrikes by the International Coalition.**
- **16 people, including a Malaysian person, were executed by HTS.**

-246 members of regime forces and their proxy militias were killed in attacks by ground forces.

392 people killed in attacks by ground forces and kamikaze drone attacks

SOHR documented the death of 392 people in bombardment, attacks by kamikaze drones, infiltration operations and clashes before the launching of “Deterrence of Aggression” operation, precisely during the period between January 1 and November 27; they are distributed as follows:

- **43 civilians, including six women and 20 children.**
- **246 members of regime forces.**
- **82 members of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham.**
- **13 members of the “National Army”**
- **Eight jihadists, including a Turkish and a Turkistani jihadists and a third jihadist of another foreign nationality.**

Those military operations also left over 160 combatants, including a Turkish soldier, and 227 civilians, including 11 women and 54 children, injured.

A monthly breakdown of military operations and fatalities they left is as follows:

- **January: 35 operations left 39 fatalities.**
- **February: 48 operations left 41 fatalities.**
- **March: 49 operations left 76 fatalities.**
- **April: 45 operations left 46 fatalities.**
- **May: 31 operations left 31 fatalities.**

- **June: 27 operations left 28 fatalities.**
- **July: 15 operations left 13 fatalities.**
- **August: 28 operations left 27 fatalities.**
- **September: 34 operations left 53 fatalities.**
- **October: 28 operations left 22 fatalities.**
- **November: 24 operations, including “Deterrence of Aggression” operation, left 298 fatalities.**

52 persons killed in incidents of security disorder

Despite the strict security measures and heavy deployment of security forces, SOHR documented 62 incidents of security disorder in areas controlled by Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham and opposition factions in Idlib city and surrounding villages in 2024. These incidents left 52 fatalities; they are as follows:

- **43 civilians, including six children and eight women.**
- **A member of the Turkistan Islamic Party.**
- **Four HTS members.**
- **A member of Al-Sham Corps.**
- **Three unidentified persons.**

A monthly distribution of fatalities in incidents of security disorder in these areas is as follows:

- **January:** No incidents were documented.
- **February:** Four incidents left four fatalities: a member of the Turkistan Islamic Party and three civilians, including a woman.
- **March:** Nine incidents left four civilian fatalities, including a woman and a child.
- **April:** Eight incidents left seven civilian fatalities, including a woman.
- **May:** Six incidents left seven fatalities: a security official and a member of HTS and five civilians.
- **June:** 11 incidents left eight fatalities: an HTS member, a member of “Al-Sham Corps” and six civilians, including two women and a child.
- **July:** Five incidents left six fatalities: three unidentified persons and three civilians, including a child.
- **August:** Nine incidents left nine fatalities: a member of “Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq” Brigade and eight civilians, including two women and a child.
- **September:** Five incidents left five civilian fatalities, including a woman and two children.
- **October:** Two incidents left two civilian fatalities.
- **November:** Two incidents left one civilian fatality.
- **December:** One incident left one civilian fatality.

Explosions of old ordnance leave 28 civilian fatalities.

Old ordnance, including unexploded shells, which are prevalent in residential areas controlled by Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham and opposition factions, poses a threat to the safety and lives of residents, while the region lacks experts to remove them and awareness-raising campaigns.

In 2024, SOHR documented the death of 28 civilians, including four children, and injury of 43 others, including three women and 32 children, in explosions of old ordnance in the “de-escalation zone.”

Here a monthly distribution of people killed and wounded in explosions of war remnants in the “de-escalation zone” in 2024:

- **January: No explosions were documented.**
- **February: No explosions were documented.**
- **March: Four children were injured.**
- **April: No explosions were documented.**
- **May: A child was killed and three children were injured.**
- **June: A man was killed and a child was injured.**
- **July: A man was killed and six civilians, including a woman and four children, were injured.**
- **August: A child was killed and four civilians, including a woman and two children, were injured.**
- **September: A man and a child were killed and a woman and a child were injured.**

- **October:** No explosions were documented.
- **November:** Two children were killed and five other children were injured.
- **December:** 20 civilians, including four children, were killed and 16 other civilians, including ten children, were injured.

Ten jihadists killed in airstrikes by International Coalition

International Coalition drones attacked positions in “Putin-Erdogan” area on two occasions in 2024, killing ten Syrian and non-Syrian jihadists. Those attacks can be summarised as follows:

- **August 23:** A drone believed to be affiliated to the International Coalition assassinated the Saudi “Abu Abdul Rahman Al-Makki,” while he was on his motorcycle on the road between Eihsem and Al-Barrah towns in Jabal Al-Zawiya area in southern Idlib countryside. “Abu Abdul Rahman Al-Makki” was a former leader in a jihadist organisation and served as a sharia official for various jihadist organisations, and he had been detained by HTS.
- **September 24:** Nine jihadists opposed to “Al-Jolani” were killed, including at least six leaders of Syrian and non-Syrian nationalities, in an attack by an “unknown” drone, yesterday evening, on two military headquarters in Duwayr Al-Akrad area near Kabanah hills in Latakia countryside, during a meeting they were holding. According to SOHR information, the dead are: (a Jordanian jihadist, an Iraqi jihadist and seven Syrians) belonging to “Jund Al-Islam” organization and others who are independent, and they are all opponents of “Al-Jolani” and some of them were detained in his prisons, and some of them fought HTS.

Violent pushbacks: Turkish Jandarma kills eight civilians in northern Idlib

Turkish border guards (Jandarma) continue their violations against civilians seeking a safe haven by opening live fire on everyone approaching the border strip between Syria and Turkey, while civilians arrested in Turkish territory are brutally tortured, stripped of all possessions and dumped into Syrian territory.

SOHR has documented the death of eight civilians and the injury of eight other civilians, including a child, by Jandarma since early 2024, while attempting to sneak into Turkey.

Here is a monthly breakdown of civilians killed and wounded by Turkish Jandarma in 2024:

- **January: Two civilians were killed and a little girl was injured.**
- **February: No casualties have been reported.**
- **March: A civilian was killed and four others were injured.**
- **April: A civilian was killed.**
- **May: No casualties have been reported.**
- **June: A civilian was killed.**
- **July: A civilian was killed.**
- **August: No casualties have been reported.**
- **September: No casualties have been reported.**
- **October: A civilian was killed.**

- **November: A civilian was killed and three others were injured.**
- **December: No casualties have been reported.**

Nearly 19,000 ground strikes target different positions in the four provinces

SOHR sources have reported that regime forces and their proxy militias fired over 18,950 shells and rockets on civil and military areas in different cities, towns and villages in the “de-escalation zone” in 2024.

It is worth noting that bombardment in the “de-escalation zone” was not suspended during regime forces withdrawals from Aleppo, Idlib, Hama and Latakia provinces, which coincided with successive advancement by “Deterrence of Aggression” operation forces, before the fall of Al-Assad’s regime on December 8, where regime forces fired over 4,300 shells and rockets on military and civil positions in the four provinces in only eight days. The largest number of shells and rockets during this period hit positions in Hama province which was experiencing fierce battles.

The total number of shells and rockets fired by regime forces on the “de-escalation zone” in 2024 is distributed regionally as follows:

- **Aleppo: 5,150 shells and rockets.**
- **Idlib: 5,300 shells and rockets.**
- **Hama: 5,650 shells and rockets, 3,000 of which were documented in December.**
- **Latakia: 2,850 shells and rockets.**

226 airstrikes on the “de-escalation zone” kill 60 civilians

SOHR documented over 226 airstrikes by Russian fighter jets on the “de-escalation zone” in 2024, precisely since February 29, as Russian fighter jets did not execute any airstrikes in the first two months of 2024. These airstrikes resulted in the death of 66 people; they are distributed as follows:

- **60 civilians, including 16 children and seven woman.**
- **A member of the “Turkistan Islamic Party.”**
- **Five members of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham.**

The Russian airstrikes on the “de-escalation zone” in 2024 targeted positions and sites in over 35 areas

Among the total death toll, 47 civilians were killed in four massacres committed by Russian fighter jets, with the first taking place on October 16 when 12 civilians, including two children, were killed and 30 others, including 14 children, were injured, some seriously, in Russian airstrikes on a sawmill, a furniture workshop and an olive presser on the outskirts of Idlib city.

The second massacre took place on November 28 when 15 civilians, including four children and two women, were killed and five others, including two children, were injured in Russian airstrikes in Al-Atareb city.

The third massacre was documented on December 1 when eight civilians, including two children and a woman, were killed and more than 50 others were injured in Russian airstrikes on a displaced camps in Al-Jame’ah neighbourhood in Idlib city.

The fourth massacre took place on December 2 when 13 civilians, including eight children and three women, were killed in Russian airstrikes on Al-Khamarah street near Idlib city's market.

Here is a monthly breakdown of Russian airstrikes documented by SOHR in “Putin-Erdogan” area in 2024:

- **January: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **February: Four airstrikes left a civilian dead.**
- **March: 12 airstrikes left no fatalities.**
- **April: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **May: Five airstrikes left a member of “Turkistan Islamic Party” dead.**
- **June: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **July: 21 airstrikes left a member of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham dead.**
- **August: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **September: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **October: 74 airstrikes left 12 civilians and four HTS members dead.**
- **November: 83 airstrikes left 23 civilians dead.**
- **December: 17 airstrikes left 24 civilian fatalities.**

468 attacks by kamikaze drones

SOHR documented the first attack by a kamikaze drone fired from regime-controlled areas on February 6, where regime forces turned to a new tactic depending on using quadcopters drones (FPV drones) with RPGs installed to the body of those drones, which causes considerable damage and inflict heavy human losses in the targeted sites.

In 2024, the number of attacks by FPV drones in “Putin-Erdogan” area reached 468.

The escalating kamikaze drones attacks has hindered the work of many civilians, mainly farmers, shepherds and hunters who work in areas near frontlines with regime forces adjacent the “de-escalation zone.”

Here is a monthly distribution of kamikaze drone attacks in “Putin-Erdogan” area in 2024:

- **February:** Regime kamikaze drones attacked positions in HTS-held areas on 15 occasions, killing 15 members of HTS and rebels and injuring at least 15 civilians, including two children and their father.
- **March:** The regime kamikaze drones attacked military positions and residential gatherings in HTS-held areas on 50 occasions, killing seven people: three civilians and four HTS members, and injuring at least four others: two civilians and two HTS members.
- **April:** 66 attacks targeted several military positions and residential gatherings in HTS-held areas, killing nine HTS members and rebels, including a member of “Ansar Al-Islam” faction and a non-Syrian jihadist, and injuring 17 others: five civilians, including two children, and 12 HTS members.

- **May:** No attacks by kamikaze drones were documented.
- **June:** 23 FPV drones attacked different positions in military and residential areas in the “de-escalation zone.” Those attacks left three HTS members injured.
- **July:** 59 FPV drones attacked different positions in military and residential areas in the “de-escalation zone.” It is worth noting that three of those drone attacks targeted a Turkish base in Jabal Al-Zawiyah, while rebels managed to shot down two drones in Idlib countryside.
- **August:** 35 drones attacked different positions in the “de-escalation zone,” which caused material damage to civilian properties. Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham managed to shoot down six drones, while a civilian in Qastoun village shot another drone down, using a hunting rifle.
- **September:** 67 kamikaze drones attacked positions in the “de-escalation zone,” while opposition factions managed to shoot down two drones. The drone attacks left a civilian and an HTS member dead and 16 other people, including women and children, injured, as well as causing material damages to private properties and cars.
- **October:** 65 kamikaze drones attacked different civil and military sites in the “de-escalation zone,” while opposition factions managed to shoot down three drones. The drone attacks left 11 civilians, including two children and two women, injured, as well as causing material damages to private properties and cars. On the other hand, opposition factions attacked regime positions in Latakia and Idlib countryside with ten kamikaze drones, while regime air-defences managed to intercept most of them. However, no casualties or material damage were reported.

- **November:** 88 FPV drones attacked different positions in the “de-escalation zone,” most of which targeted positions in Idlib countryside, west Aleppo countryside and north Latakia countryside. The drone attacks left several civilian injured, as well as causing material damage to military positions of HTS and civilian properties. Meanwhile, opposition factions managed to shoot down four drones.
- **December:** No attacks by kamikaze drones were documented.

HTS executes 16 people on different charges

Also in 2024, Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham executed 16 people, including a Malaysian person, over different accusations, mainly “spying and belonging to ISIS.” It is worth noting that sessions of trials related to the accusation of “spying for hostile bodies” are always closed, amid media blackout.

Further details about those executions can be summarised as follows:

In January, Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham carried out the death penalty on two persons, after having been tried in different times, where they had been arrested for “spying for hostile bodies and involving in murders and explosions in areas under HTS control.” Here are further details:

- **January 16:** The General Security Service of HTS executed a person from Andan northern of Aleppo, where they informed his parents of his death and refused to hand over his body after being arrested for two years, where he was arrested for “resisting a patrol that stormed a house of only women”, and he was then accused of “working with Any Bakr Al-Siddek” Brigade.”

- **January 2:** A displaced young man from Homs countryside was executed and his body was delivered to his family on the following day. The man was a combatant and he was arrested for “spying for the International Coalition,” after having surrendered when members of HTS-backed General Security Service surrounded his house. The man had been brutally tortured when he was in the prison.

While on February 23, Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham informed the family of a member of “Jaysh Al-Ahrar” of his death in an HTS prison, eight months after having been arrested for “spying for the International Coalition.”

It was found out later that the man was acquitted of all those charges and that he died under torture five months earlier. HTS later informed the man’s family of the place where he was buried, before his family retrieved his body and reburied him in the family’s graveyard.

In a statement issued on April 21, HTS acknowledge of torturing a young man called “Abdulqader Al-Hakim” to death in an HTS prison for a crime he did not commit. HTS also struck an agreement with the family of “Abdulqader Al-Hakim” to pay a sum of money equivalent to 47 kilogram of silver, which is estimated to be 44,000 US dollar, as a form of compensation for his death in HTS prisons.

Also on April, SOHR documented the execution of nine detainees, including a Malaysian person, by the HTS-backed General Security Service. Here are further details:

- **April 1:** HTS executed six combatants for “belonging to ISIS,” after having been arrested nearly three years earlier.
- **April 19:** HTS informed the family of a young man, who previously worked for “Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq Battalion,” that

he was killed in an HTS prison, after having been arrested on November 19, 2020, for “planting an IED on the way of joint patrols which were run then by Russian and Turkish forces on M4 highway in Idlib. The young man hailed from Maarzita village in the southern countryside of Idlib.

- **April 21:** A member of “Jund Al-Aqsa” faction was executed in a prison of HTS, three years after having been arrested for belonging to the faction. HTS refused to delivered his body to his family.
- **April 29:** HTS executed a Malaysian jihadist called “Habibullah Ahmed,” nicknamed “Hamza Al-Malizi,” five years after having been arrested. “Al-Malizi” was an expert in aeronautical engineering and responsible for flying drones over regime-controlled areas. The man had subjected to assassination attempts by “International Coalition,” where he sustained critical injuries, where he lost his hand. The General Security Service informed the man’s family of his death, but it did not delivered his body to them.

In June, Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham executed the death penalty against a jihadist in June, after having been arrested seven years ago. According to SOHR sources, the jihadist worked for “Jund Al-Aqsa” jihadi faction. The jihadist’ family were informed of his death, but they were not informed about the place where he was buried.

Similarly, HTS executed the death penalty, on November 15, against three persons accused of “involving in the assassination of the senior jihadist Abu Maria Al-Qahtani.” The three persons included two Iraqis, while the third was a Syrian hailing from Kafr Nabudah in Hama countryside.

“Abu Maria Al-Qahtani” was killed and four other persons, including former commanders of Al-Qaeda, sustained serious injuries in an assassination which was carried out on April 4 when a suicide bomber blew himself up using an explosive belt in the rest house of “Al-Qahtani” in Sarmada. The attack was carried out less than a month after his release from HTS prisons. The Iraqi jihadist “Abu Maria Al-Qahtani” was a senior commander in Hayyat Tahrir Al-Sham, and he had been a top commander in Al-Qaeda in the Levant.

SOHR

“Erdogan-Putin’s De-escalation Zone” in 2024



Key developments in “Putin-Erdogan” area in 2024

572

people killed in acts of violence

50



144

Jihadists, HTS members and rebels killed by regime forces

21



246

Members of the former regime forces and their proxy militias

182

390

111



468

Attacks by regime kamikaze drones



4

Massacres committed by the Russian fighter jets against civilians



52

people killed in 62 cases of security chaos



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“Olive Branch” area in 2024 | Over 600 human rights violations... nearly 90 explosions and factional infightings...133 casualties in acts of violence

SOHR calls on the international community to intervene immediately and protect civilians from systematic violations by Turkish-backed factions

Since Turkish forces and their proxy factions captured several areas in north-western Aleppo, namely Afrin canton, after a military operation known as “Olive Branch”, humanitarian crises have been emerging and worsening gradually, with violations, attacks and explosions occur almost daily. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked prominent developments and gross violations in these areas in 2024, which can be summarised in the following main points:

Acts of violence leaves scores of fatalities

In 2024, SOHR has documented the death of 76 people and injury of over 57 others in areas under the control of Turkish forces and factions operating under the banner of “Olive Branch” operations room in the north-western countryside of Aleppo. A breakdown of fatalities is as follows:

-38 civilians, including eight children and three women:

- 11 civilians, including two women and three children, were murdered.
- Nine civilians, including three children, were killed in gunfire and infightings.
- Seven civilians were shot dead by Turkish forces.

- Five civilians, including a woman and a little girl, were killed in gunfire and bombardment by former regime forces.
- Three civilians, including a child, were killed in unknown circumstances.
- Two civilians were killed by Turkish-backed factions.
- A civilian died under torture by Turkish-backed factions.

-37 combatants:

- 16 killed in factional infightings.
- 12 killed by Kurdish forces.
- Four assassinated by unknown gunmen.
- Two killed by explosions.
- One died under torture in a prison of Turkish-backed factions.
- One killed in bombardment by former regime forces.
- One killed in clashes with unknown gunmen.

- ISIS commander was killed by International Coalition Forces.

Here is a monthly breakdown of fatalities in “Olive Branch” area in 2024:

- January: Six people: three civilians and three combatants.
- February: Six people: two civilians and four combatants.
- March: Seven people: six civilians and one combatant.

- **April: Six people: four civilians and two combatants.**
- **May: Four people: one civilian and three combatants.**
- **June: Seven people: three civilians and four combatants.**
- **July: Ten civilians.**
- **August: Four combatants.**
- **September: Seven people: two civilians and five combatants.**
- **October: 14 people: three civilians and 11 combatants.**
- **November: Five people: four civilians and one combatant.**
- **December: No fatalities were documented.**

Infightings and explosions

“Olive Branch” area in north-west Aleppo countryside experienced 22 tribal, factional and family infightings in 2024, which left 25 fatalities: nine civilians, including three children, and 16 combatants. In addition, tens others sustained various injuries.

Also, in 2024, six explosions occurred in “Olive Branch” area, which were caused by detonating IEDs and landmines. Those explosions left two combatants dead. Here is a monthly distribution of those infightings and explosions:

-January:

- **Infightings: 2**

- Explosions: 1

-February:

- Infightings: 1
- Explosions: 2

-March:

- Infightings: 1
- Explosions: No explosions were documented

-April:

- Infightings: 1
- Explosions: No explosions were documented

-May:

- Infightings: 1
- Explosions: No explosions were documented

-June:

- Infightings: 6
- Explosions: No explosions were documented

-July:

- Infightings: 3

- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-August:

- **Infightings: 2**
- **Explosions: 3**

-September:

- **Infightings: 3**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-October:

- **Infightings: 1**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-November:

- **Infightings: 1**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-December:

- **Infightings: No infightings were documented**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

Scores of violations

Moreover, SOHR has documented over 611 other violations in 2024, which are distributed as follows:

- 111 incidents of seizure of houses, shops, cars and farmlands by members and commanders of Turkish-backed factions in Afrin city and surrounding districts. The seized properties belonged to people who have been forced to displace from Afrin canton during the “Olive Branch” operation.
- 124 incidents of felling fruit-bearing trees, were thousands of olive trees were cut down in different villages and districts in Afrin.
- 243 incidents of imposition of levies on civilians by the factions, police, the military court and local councils.
- 61 thefts of civilian properties, mostly committed by militiamen of “National Army” factions.
- 28 incidents of selling displaced people’s houses which had been seized earlier by Turkish-backed factions by force. The houses were sold at low prices and in US dollar in particular.
- 44 assaults of civilians by members of factions operating under the banner of the “National Army.”

The monthly distribution of these violations is as follows:

- January: 69
- February: 49
- March: 56

- April: 55
- May: 56
- June: 60
- July: 42
- August: 41
- September: 28
- October: 80
- November: 45
- December: 9

Demographic change

As a part of ongoing efforts to change the demography of Afrin city and surrounding villages and construct new settlements, SOHR sources reported that the licensed association in Turkey “White Hands” opened 80 new residential apartments in the complex called “Basmah” in Shaderah village in Shirawa district in Afrin countryside, within “Olive Branch” area in the northern countryside of Aleppo.

Similarly, the humanitarian organisation of “Wifaq,” with support by “Arab 48,” opened a new residential village dubbed “Al-Nour residential project” in Jendires town in Afrin canton in north-western Aleppo. The first phase of the project includes 48 residential apartments of an area of 65 m2 each one, a mosque, a school and a park under the pretext of housing civilians from Jendires, who have been affected by the devastating earthquake which hit Syria and Turkey in February 2023.

Excavation of archaeological sites

In March, members “Al-Amshat” faction began excavating and destroying an archaeological hill near Sheitkah village in Ma’abtaly district in Afrin countryside, searching for treasures and antiques, using heavy machinery, in addition to imposing a security cordon around the site to prevent people from filming the site. They also demanded the residents of nearby houses to move to another place until the completion of the excavation work.

Rape of a girl triggers public anger

An incident of raping a girl was documented in May, where a commander in the Turkish-backed “Sultan Murad” Division raped a girl from Afrin, while she was attempting to cross into Turkish territory with the help of smugglers. The girl was taken to Afrin hospital, amid a state of public anger and demands by Afrin residents to hold the rapist accountable.

It seems that violations in “Olive Branch” area will not stop as long as Turkish forces and their proxies keep breaching all international laws and charters, while no party or international or regional player is exhibiting any willingness to put an end to these “grave” violations, despite SOHR repeated warnings about the dreadful humanitarian situation in the region.

“Olive Branch” areas in 2024



“Olive Branch” area in 2024

76

People killed in acts of violence

8



37

Turkish-backed militiamen

3



1

ISIS commander

38

38

27



22

Factional, tribal and family infightings

6

Explosions



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Violations committed by Turkish-backed factions in “Olive Branch” area in 2024



111

Incidents of seizure of houses, shops, cars and farmlands



124

Incidents of felling fruit-bearing trees



243

Incidents of imposition of levies on civilians



61

Thefts of civilian properties



28

Incidents of selling displaced people's houses



44

Assaults



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 27.

“Euphrates Shield” area and surroundings in 2024 | Nearly 420 casualties in acts of violence...46 violations and 65 infightings and explosions amid rampant security chaos

SOHR renews its appeals to the international community to protect civilians in “Euphrates Shield” area from chaos, insecurity, and violations of Turkish-backed factions

Since Turkish forces and their proxy factions captured several areas in Aleppo after a military operation known as “Euphrates Shield,” humanitarian crises have been emerging and worsening gradually, with violations, attacks and explosions occur almost daily. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked 2024’s prominent developments in “Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings, which could be summarised in the following main points:

Acts of violence leaves scores of fatalities

In 2024, SOHR activists documented the death of 199 people and the injury of over 221 civilians and non-civilians in areas under the control of Turkish forces and factions operating under the banner of “Euphrates Shield” operations room in the northern, eastern and north-eastern countryside of Aleppo. The fatalities’ breakdown is as follows:

-90 civilians, including six children and 11 women:

- 29 civilians, including two children and two women, were killed in family and tribal infightings.
- 19 civilians, including five women, were murdered.
- 19 civilians, including two children and two women, were killed by explosions.

- Eight civilians, including a woman, were killed by Turkish-backed factions.
- Four civilians, including a child and a woman, were killed in unknown circumstances.
- Four civilians, including a woman, were killed in bombardment by regime forces.
- Two civilians died under torture in the factions' prisons.
- Two civilians, including a child, were killed by SDF.
- Two civilians were extrajudicially executed.
- One civilian was killed by the explosion of an old landmine.

-109 Combatants:

- 57 killed by SDF.
- 25 killed in factional infightings.
- 12 killed in Russian airstrikes.
- Nine killed by explosions.
- Six killed in attacks and bombardment.

Here is a monthly breakdown of fatalities in acts of violence documented by SOHR in “Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings in 2024:

-January: 11 people: nine civilians and two militiamen.

- February: 14 people: five civilians and nine militiamen.**
- March: 26 people: 17 civilians and nine militiamen.**
- April: 24 people: 16 civilians and eight militiamen.**
- May: Eight people: three civilians and five militiamen.**
- June: Nine people: three civilians and six militiamen.**
- July: 22 people: five civilians and 17 militiamen.**
- August: 24 people: 13 civilians and 11 militiamen.**
- September: Nine people: five civilians and four militiamen.**
- October: 14 people: six civilians and eight militiamen.**
- November: 38 people: eight civilians and 30 militiamen.**
- December: No fatalities were documented.**

Infighting and explosions

The “Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings in the northern, eastern and north-eastern countryside of Aleppo experienced 54 factional, family and tribal infighting in 2024. These infightings left 54 fatalities: 29 civilians, including two children and two women, and 25 militiamen of Turkish-backed factions, while dozens others sustained various injuries.

Also, in 2024, “Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings experienced 11 explosions of landmines and IEDs and bomb attacks, which left 28 fatalities: 19 civilians, including a woman and two children, and nine militiamen of Turkish-backed factions.

Here is a monthly distribution of those infightings and explosions:

-January:

- **Infightings: 5**
- **Explosions: 1**

-February:

- **Infightings: 5**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-March:

- **Infightings: 5**
- **Explosions: 3**

-April:

- **Infightings: 8**
- **Explosions: 2**

-May:

- **Infightings: 3**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-June:

- **Infightings: 9**

- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-July:

- **Infightings: 5**
- **Explosions: 1**

-August:

- **Infightings: 5**
- **Explosions: 2**

-September:

- **Infightings: 4**
- **Explosions: 1**

-October:

- **Infightings: 4**
- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

-November:

- **Infightings: 1**
- **Explosions: 1**

-December:

- **Infightings: No infightings were documented**

- **Explosions: No explosions were documented**

Violations

Moreover, SOHR activists reported 46 different violations in “Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings in 2024. Here is a monthly distribution of these violations:

- **January: Six violations.**
- **February: Five violations.**
- **March: Three violations.**
- **April: Six violations.**
- **May: Three violations.**
- **June: Seven violations.**
- **July: Four violations.**
- **August: Three violations.**
- **September: Two violations.**
- **October: Three violations.**
- **November: Two violations.**
- **December: Two violations.**

Public protests

On the other hand, the region experienced dozens of demonstrations and public protests since early 2024, in which protestors called for improving living conditions, putting an end to violations and infightings, controlling the security situation and countering corruption and violations by local councils and factions and condemned the poor service and violations by energy companies.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) renews its appeals to the international community to protect civilians in the “Euphrates Shield” area amid the prevalent chaos, and insecurity which manifest itself in daily robberies, murders, kidnappings and arrests in plain sight of the Turkish forces and with participation of the Ankara-backed factions.

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“Euphrates Shield” area and surroundings in 2024



“Euphrates Shield” area and its surroundings in 2024

199

People killed in acts of violence

6



109

Combatants

11



73



90

109



54

Factional, tribal and family infightings

11

Explosions

46

Human rights violations



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 28.



“Peace Spring” areas in 2024 | Nearly 150 casualties in acts of violence...15 explosions and infightings...scores of human rights violations

SOHR renews its appeals to the international community to protect civilians in Peace Spring areas from the systematic practices of Ankara-backed factions

Human rights violations have been escalating in areas under the control of Turkish forces and their proxy factions in Al-Hasakah and Al-Raqqah, known as “Peace Spring” area, since they were captured in October 2019. These forces’ aim is to accomplish specific economic and political objectives through exploiting the region’s wealth, resources and people.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked all developments and violations committed in “Peace Spring” areas in 2024.

Acts of violence leave scores of casualties

In 2024, 80 people were killed in “Peace Spring” area, and over 68 civilians and combatants were injured; the fatalities are distributed as follows:

-15 civilians, including two women and four children:

- Seven civilians, including two children, were killed by factions.
- Four civilians, including a woman and two children, were killed by an explosion.
- A woman was murdered.

- A man killed himself.
- A young man was killed by Turkish forces.
- A young man was killed by Turkish Jandarma.

-65 combatants:

- 43 killed by SDF.
- Ten killed by explosions.
- Seven killed in infightings.
- Four killed in attacks by unknown gunmen.
- One killed by Turkish forces.

Here is a monthly breakdown of fatalities documented in “Peace Spring” area in 2024:

- **January: One combatant.**
- **February: Four people: one civilian and three combatants.**
- **March: Three civilians.**
- **April: Three civilians.**
- **May: Four combatants.**
- **June: Three people: two civilians and one combatant.**
- **July: Ten combatants.**

- **August: Four combatants.**
- **September: Four combatants.**
- **October: One combatant.**
- **November: 18 people: six civilians and 12 combatants.**
- **December: 26 combatants.**

Infightings

“Peace Spring” area in Al-Hasakah and Al-Raqqah experienced 11 factional, tribal and family infightings in 2024, during which seven combatants were killed and 21 other civilians and combatants were injured.

A monthly distribution of infightings documented in “Peace Spring” area in 2024 is as follows:

- **January: No infightings were documented.**
- **February: No infightings were documented.**
- **March: 1**
- **April: No infightings were documented.**
- **May: 2**
- **June: 2**
- **July: No infightings were documented.**

- **August: 1**
- **September: 2**
- **October: 1**
- **November: 2**
- **December: No infightings were documented.**

Explosions

Moreover, SOHR documented four explosions of landmines and IEDs in “Peace Spring” area in 2024, which left 14 fatalities: four civilians, including a woman and her two children, and ten combatants. Here is a monthly distribution of these explosions:

- **January: 1**
- **February: No explosions were documented.**
- **March: No explosions were documented.**
- **April: No explosions were documented.**
- **May: No explosions were documented.**
- **June: No explosions were documented.**
- **July: 1**
- **August: No explosions were documented.**
- **September: 1**

- **October: No explosions were documented.**
- **November: 1**
- **December: No explosions were documented.**

Moreover, SOHR has documented scores of other violations in 2024, the most prominent of which can be summarised as follows:

-January

January 25: Members of Al-Suqour Brigade of the Turkish-backed factions kidnapped a young man and stole a sum of money that he had in his possession, “5,000 USD”, in addition to his car and a personal pistol, before releasing him, in Sulouk area, within “Peace Spring” area, which is controlled by the Turkish-backed factions in the northern countryside of Al-Raqqah. Meanwhile, members of “Al-Jabha Al-Shamiyyah” which operates under the banner of the “National Army” within “Peace Spring” area looted the properties of a civilian’s house and expelled his family after opening fire and assaulting the civilian, his wife and his mother. The members threatened to arrest the civilian under the pretext of involving in smuggling operations.

-February

Members of the pro-Turkey military police and “Al-Sultan Murad” faction of the “National Army” seized the flour allocations of the public automated bread bakery in Ras Al-Ain city within “Peace Spring” area and sold them on the black market. The factions also reduced the working hours of the public bakery to allow a private bakery belonging to a commander of “Al-Sultan Murad” faction to work for extra hours and sell bread for 10,000 Syrian pounds a pack of eight loaves, at a time when bread is sold at stalls belonging to members of “Al-Sultan Murad” faction at high prices reaching 21,000 Syrian pounds during peak time.

February 20: Members of “Shuhadaa Badr” faction, which operate under the banner of the “National Army,” expelled the inhabitants of a house, after having beaten and verbally abused them, in Al-Aziziyah village in western Ras Al-Ain city in north-western Al-Hasakah. The faction’s members took over the house and used it as a rest for people they smuggle to Turkey.

In the late two weeks of February, militiamen of “Al-Rahman Corps” confiscated 120 houses in Ras Al-Ain city and countryside with the aim of resettling 50 families of the faction’s members, who had recently been brought from Afrin canton to Ras Al-Ain in north-western Al-Hasakah. Moreover, the faction seized farmlands of a total area of 50 acres in Al-Rawiyah village.

-March

Members of “Shuhadaa Badr” faction and the civil police arrested five members of “Sultan Murad” faction on March 7 in Al-Aziziyah village to the west of Ras Al-Ain city in northern Al-Hasakah in “Peace Spring” area. According to SOHR sources, the arrested members have made a career of smuggling civilians into Turkey in return for large sums of money, where they were arrested while attempting to help civilians seeking a safe haven to sneak into Turkish territory through routes used for smuggling without giving a share of the revenue of smuggling operations to “Shuhadaa Badr” faction.

While on March 29, the Civil Police in Ras Al-Ain City in north western Al-Hasakah countryside within “Peace Spring” area, arrested two people working in drug dealing after they refused to pay royalties to a commander of the Civil Police, and they were taken to a security centre.

Also, on March 22, members of military police assaulted a pediatrician in Tel Abyad city within areas controlled by pro-Turkey factions in northern Al-Raqqah countryside within “Peace Spring” area after he had refused to give the turn at the clinic to the brother of the head of the military police and asked him to wait for ten minutes until the pediatrician finished examining a patient. The brother of the head of the military police then brought in a military patrol and attacked the pediatrician in front of the patients, before putting him in the car and arbitrarily taking him to unknown destination. Hundreds of people from Suluk and Tel Abyad cities in Al-Raqqah countryside within “Peace Spring” area went out in protests expressing their solidarity with the pediatrician who was assaulted by members of a group of military police in Tel Abyad and demanding putting an end to these violations.

On March 7, members of the civil police in Ras Al-Ain city in Al-Hasakah countryside in “Peace Spring” area staged a protest in the city, opposing a decision by the courthouse to release a member of “Sultan Murad” faction. The released member had murdered two members of the civil police and a child during clashes between the civil police and “Sultan Murad” faction at Al-Qaws checkpoint at the entrance of Ras Al-Ain city on July 5, 2023.

On the other hand, the civil police arrested four members of the civil police in Ras Al-Ain city in north-western Al-Hasakah in “Peace Spring” area for attempting to beat a judge and verbally abusing him while participating in a demonstration in Ras Al-Ain city, after the civil courthouse having released a member of “Sultan Murad” faction, who had killed a policeman and a child a few months earlier.

The branch of the “Free Lawyers Union” in Al-Raqqah issued a statement condemning this action and expressing solidarity with all judicial institutions in all “liberated areas,” as the statement described. The statement also announced the suspension of the work of lawyers as of Sunday, March 10, from 10:30 am to 11:30 am and called upon officials responsible for the members who assaulted the judge to issue a statement explaining their stance regarding this incident.

-April

April 4: Civil police assaulted two teachers in Ras Al-Ain city in Al-Hasakah countryside within “Peace Spring” area with controlled by Turkish forces and their proxies, while they were in a bank near Al-Bareed roundabout to get their salaries, after they had criticised the delay in salaries and the low number of students in the school. The incident led to public discontent among teachers due to these violations.

April 6: A commander of “Al-Sultan Mourad” Faction took over a patch of supplies and aids from Turkish charity organizations that were brought to Ras Al-Ain City through Jailan Banar Crossing in “Peace Spring” area north western of Al-Hasakah, to be distributed on the poor during Ramadan. These supplies included drinking water, flour, rice, lentils and dates. The commander took over the supplies for himself and the rest of the supplies were sold to merchants for 1,500 USDs in several stores inside the city, amid public discontent among the residents and the poor due to the dominant force of the armed factions in the region.

-May

May 21: Members of “Ahrar Al-Sharqiya” Faction brutally beat a “human smuggler” in “Peace Spring” areas for “using a route used by the faction, harassing women and stealing their money. SOHR obtained a video showing the young man being beaten with sticks and brutally tortured by the members.

-July

“Peace Spring” area experienced demonstrations by residents of Ras Al-Ain city in Al-Hasakah countryside following the racist attacks against Syrian refugees in Turkey, where the protesters cut the roads by burning tires and attacked the Turkish vehicles that arrived to disperse the protests, amid information regarding the interference of “Al-Sultan Murad” Faction to stop the clashes and disperse protesters. With these escalating events, Turkish-backed factions launched a large-scale arrest campaign, which lasted for days, arresting over 51 people.

-September

September 5: Members of “Al-Sultan Suleiman Shah” carried out a raid operation on civilians’ houses and arrested two people for unknown reasons, in Ras Al-Ain city in northern Al-Hasakah countryside within “Peace Spring” area, where their whereabouts and fate remain unknown.

September 7: the Turkish-backed civil police launched a raid campaign in Tel Abyad city in Al-Raqqah countryside, within “Peace Spring” areas, and arbitrarily arrested five civilians from the traders of the area, including a minor, and they were taken to a security agency without knowing their fate. The military police accused these detainees of detonating a hand grenade in Al-Jisr neighbourhood in the city, after transporting explosive materials from Al-Raqqah city to Tel Abyad, and according to SOHR activists, the charge against them is false and unrelated to reality.

-October

October 5: Nurses holding Turkish nationality assaulted a Syrian doctor in Tel Abyad Hospital in the northern countryside of Al-Raqqah, within “Peace Spring” areas. The doctor is the only one with a specialty in ophthalmology in “Peace Spring” area, and she is displaced from Al-Bokamal city, east of Deir Ezzor. Following the incident, the medical staff and residents of the area demanded that the attacking Turkish nurses be held accountable and dismissed, amid popular anger in the area.

October 24: Tel Abyad city and countryside in “Peace Spring” area experienced growing public discontent and anger following the rape of a little girl by an old man. The man was arrested by the civil police, while tens of residents and members of Turkish-backed factions staged a demonstration in front of the headquarters of the courthouse in Tel Abyad in “Peace Spring” area, calling upon the civil police for executing death penalty against the rapist. The protestors chanted slogans, such as “people want the ‘pig’ to be executed,” while officials in Tel Abyad courthouse promised the family of the victim to impose the most severe punishment against the rapist. Meanwhile, SOHR activists confirmed that the old man died, after having been taken to a security centre, while uncertainty still surrounds the circumstances of his death.

-November

November 22: Members of the Turkish-backed Military Police in Tel Abyad City in northern Al-Raqqa countryside within “Peace Spring” area, arrested four young men for “communicating with the Autonomous Administration and providing it with information from the city” and took them to a security branch.

November 24: Members of the Civil Police arrested four gunmen of Al-Qora'an Tribe at Tel Half checkpoint in western Ras Al-Ain countryside within “Peace Spring” area, due to disputes over distribution of earnings of smuggling, with no information regarding their fate.

Overall, this bleak picture remains in place, with the widespread corruption and tyranny of the Turkish-backed factions without any deterrent preventing them from committing further humanitarian crimes against Syrian civilians in the “Peace Spring” areas.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, therefore, renews its appeal to the international community not to abandon its responsibility and obligations and find a lasting solution to the tragedy of the region's civilians that are plagued with systematic abuse and violations committed by lawless factions, including thefts, murders, looting, arrests and kidnappings.

S O H R

“Peace Spring” areas in 2024



“Peace Spring” area in 2024

80

People killed in acts of violence

4



65

Members of the National Army

2



9



15

65



11

factional and family infighting

4

Explosions



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 26.



Turkey's presence in Syria in 2024 | Aerial and ground attacks by Turkish forces leave 88 civilians and nearly 105 combatants dead

Turkish forces continue their operations in Syria under the pretext of “securing the Turkish border with Syria, countering the Kurdistan Workers’ Party and guaranteeing agreements.” Ankara has frequently issued press releases claiming that those agreements, especially the agreement which led to the establishment of the so-called “Putin-Erdogan” area, aim at protecting Syrians from the Syrian regime’s oppression. However, all developments on the ground improve that these claims are completely untrue, as the Turkish intervention and military operations in Syria have caused nothing but destruction.

2024’s developments are unrefuted evidence of the fact that the Turkish intervention in Syria has been a major source of bloodshed. Since early 2024, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has documented the death of 88 Syrian civilians: 17 children, six women and 65 young and adult men, in gunfire by Turkish border guards (Jandarma) and aerial and ground attacks by Turkish forces, including airstrikes by fighter jets and drones.

Also, those attacks, which took place in areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration, areas where Kurdish and former regime forces were deployed and other areas in Idlib, Al-Hasakah and Aleppo, left at least 103 combatants dead.

In this report, SOHR highlights full details of Turkish operations and attacks in Syria in 2024, which can be summarised in the following main points:

Escalation in areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration

Different positions throughout areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration in North and East Syria experience military escalation by Turkish forces, which manifested in almost-daily artillery attacks and gunfire by ground forces and airstrikes by drones and fighter jets on positions in Al-Raqqah, Al-Hasakah and Aleppo. This escalation coincides with frequent statements by Ankara about immanent military operation in north-east Syria.

The Syrian Observatory has monitored and tracked key movements and operations by Turkish forces in SDF-controlled areas in 2024, documenting the death of 57 civilians, including 13 children and four women, as well as the death of 87 combatants, all killed in Turkish military operations and attacks.

Ground attacks

Turkish forces fired thousands of rockets and artillery shells on positions in scores of areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration in Aleppo, Al-Hasakah and Al-Raqqah. Turkish ground attacks in SDF-controlled areas in 2024 left 21 fatalities as follows:

- 12 civilians, including a woman and seven children.**
- Six members of SDF and affiliated military formations.**
- Three soldiers of the former regime.**

Drone attacks

SOHR documented 224 airstrikes carried out by Turkish drones in SDF-controlled areas in 2024, which left 115 fatalities:

- 37 civilians, including six children and three women.
- 60 combatants of military formations operating in areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration, including two commanders.
- 18 members of former regime forces.

In addition, over 69 combatants and 80 civilians, including six women and three children sustained various injuries in these airstrikes.

Turkish drone attacks in SDF-controlled areas in 2024 are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Al-Hasakah:** 146 attacks left 43 fatalities: 11 civilians, including a woman, 18 members of former regime forces and 14 combatants of SDF and affiliated formations.
- **Al-Raqqah:** 15 attack left 41 fatalities: 19 civilians, including six children and a woman, and 22 combatants.
- **Aleppo countryside:** 63 attacks left 31 fatalities: seven civilians, including a woman, and 24 combatants.

Airstrikes by fighter jets

Turkish fighter jets executed over 37 airstrikes in SDF-controlled areas in 2024, **all documented in January and October**, targeting vehicles, posts and different positions. These airstrikes killed eight civilians in Ain Al-Arab (Kobani). In addition, these airstrikes left over 44 civilians and combatants injured.

-January

Turkish fighter jet carried out 19 airstrikes on areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration in January 2024. The Turkish airstrikes targeted 19 vital institutions as a part of efforts by Turkish forces to destroy infrastructure in north-east Syria.

It is worth noting that these attacks led to power outage in the following nine cities and towns: Al-Darbasiyah, Amuda, Al-Qahtaniyah, Dayrik, Karki Laki, Jal Agha, Tel Karjer, Tel Hamis and Al-Qamishli, and 2,232 other villages.

Here is a list of the sites of infrastructure and service and facilities institutions which were attacked by Turkish aircraft in north-east Syria in January, some of which have completely been put out of service:

-Al-Hasakah

- Al-Darbasiyah power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Amuda power switching station 66/20Kv.
- North Al-Qamishli power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Al-Qahtaniyah (Tirbespi) power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Dayrik power switching station 66/20Kv.

- Al-Suwaidiyah power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Tel Kojar power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Tel Alu power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Tawil power switching station 66/20Kv.
- Al-Suwaidiyah power plant.
- Al-Suwaidiyah power and gas plant. The institution was put out of service, after having been targeted by Turkish drones and fighter jets with 13 airstrikes.
- Workshops and hangars in Rumaylan city.
- Oil refinery in Kari Bari in Al-Qahtaniyah countryside.
- Amuda station.

-Ain Al-Arab (Kobani) in Aleppo:

- An energy company and an auto-repair shop in Ain Al-Arab city.
- A site in Mamid village in Ain Al-Arab countryside (Kobani).
- Cow farms in Sheikh Joban village to the south of Ain Al-Arab city.

Turkish forces also attacked the following sites and institutions:

- Narkz company in Haram Shikhu in western Al-Qamishli.
- A checkpoint of the Internal Security Forces (Asayish) in

Khaznah on the M4 highway in the southern countryside of Al-Qahtaniyah.

- **A former driving school in Karbawi village in Al-Qamishli countryside.**
- **Kafri Sibi checkpoint in western Al-Qamsihli.**
- **A position located between the headquarters of the farmers union and the headquarters of the forces of security checkpoints of the Internal Security Forces (Asayish) in Al-Darbasiyah in Al-Hasakah countryside.**
- **Positions and houses in Kodhah village.**
- **Positions in Markabah village in Amuda countryside.**
- **A house located in an area between Haram Shikhu and Ali Faru in Al-Hasakah countryside.**

-October

Turkish fighter jets executed 18 airstrikes in SDF-controlled areas in October 2024, leaving heavy human and material losses. The Turkish airstrikes targeted 37 vital institutions and centres in north and east Syria, as well as military positions and checkpoints.

The sites attacks by Turkish aircraft in SDF-controlled areas in October are distributed as follows:

-Al-Hasakah province

- **A military checkpoint in Maabadah town.**
- **A position in Kar Qahfak village.**

- **A checkpoint in Al-Malikiyah.**
- **A checkpoint in Amuda city,**
- **A refinery near Ouda field in south-east Al-Qahtaniyah town.**
- **Several positions in Al-Qamishli, including the agriculture development company.**
- **A centre of military constructions.**
- **A park and service facilities.**
- **Oil wells in Rumaylan.**
- **A factory of plastic bags in Kojarat area in Al-Malikiyah countryside in northern Al-Hasakah.**
- **The gas station in Al-Suwaydiyah in Al-Qamishli countryside in northern Al-Hasakah.**
- **A milk factory.**
- **A park in Al-Malikiyah.**
- **A centre of Internal Security Forces (Asayish) in Amuda.**
- **The curriculum institution.**
- **Tanks in Karki Laki which contain large amounts of crude oil.**
- **The centre of constructions of cement concretes for tunnels in Tel Tame district in western Al-Hasakah.**

-Aleppo province

- A wedding hall.
- Five military checkpoints: Tariq Halab checkpoint, Manaz checkpoint, Jarabulus checkpoint, Halnaj checkpoint and Mazarkan checkpoint.
- The military yard.
- Mashtour mountain.
- Barkal mountain.
- An automated bread bakery.
- A grain mill in Rofi village.
- A rest house of the Autonomous Administration near Al-Amal hospital.

Escalation in areas where Kurdish forces are deployed

SOHR documented the death of 28 people in bombardment and airstrikes by Turkish forces in 2024 in areas where Kurdish and former regime forces were deployed in the northern countryside of Aleppo; they are as follows:

- 13 civilians, including two children and two women.
- Seven regime soldiers: six killed in bombardment by ground forces and one killed in a drone attack.
- Nine Kurdish fighters: seven killed in bombardment by ground forces and two killed in drone attacks.

Violent pushback by Turkish Jandarma

As Ankara closes its border crossings for the crossing of civilians and allows the entry of weapons and military equipment to kill more Syrians, Turkish boarder guards (Jandarma) continue attacking everyone approaching the border strip, mostly civilians attempting to flee from the war and its scourages and searching for a safe haven.

Since early 2024, SOHR activists have documented the death of 18 civilians, including two children, by Turkish Jandarma in different Syrian areas near the Syria-Turkey border, while 41 other civilians, including two children, were injured.

The fatalities are distributing regionally as follows:

- Areas controlled by Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham and opposition factions: Eight civilians, including a child, in Idlib countryside.**
- “Peace Spring” area: Two civilians.**
- SDF-controlled areas: Eight civilians: a civilian in Manbij, three civilians in Al-Hasakah and four civilians, including a child, in Ain Al-Arab (Kobani).**

SOHR calls for referring Turkey’s pushbacks, which amount to premeditated murders, to international courts, so that all those responsible and those who aided and abated the killing of Syrian people can face justice.

Turkey forces killed 88 civilians and nearly 105 combatants in Syria in 2024



SOHR documented the death of **103** combatants by **Turkish forces** in 2024



19

Drone attacks

62

Regime soldiers



Members of SDF and affiliated military formations

9

Bombardment by ground forces

13

Regime soldiers



Members of SDF and affiliated military formations

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SOHR documented the death of **88 civilians** by **Turkish forces** in 2024



**Gunfire by Turkish
Jandarma**

**Bombardment by
ground forces**

**Airstrikes by
fighter jets**

Drone attacks



2

9

-

6



-

3

-

3



16

13

8

28

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SDF-controlled areas in 2024 | Nearly 680 fatalities in acts of violence...256 murders and tribal infightings...266 attacks by ISIS cells

Areas under the control of the “Autonomous Administration in northern and north-eastern Syria, AANES” (SDF-held areas) experienced in 2024 scores of incidents of security disorder and violations against human rights. In this context, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked all key developments in SDF-held areas in the past year.

In 2024, SDF-held areas experienced several critical crises, including acute lack of water and bread and frequent electricity blackouts, as well as deterioration in education and prevalence of corruption in AANES institutions. These unwelcome developments spurred many residents in SDF-held areas to stage and participate in protests, expressing their rejection of the Autonomous Administration’s policies and mishandling of crises, demanding improvement of living conditions and calling upon the Autonomous Administration, the holder of power in that region, to guarantee people’s rights. In addition, the region experienced considerable military escalation by Turkish forces, arrests, kidnaps and noticeable increase in ISIS activities and operations.

Acts of violence leave hundreds dead and wounded

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) documented the death of 677 civilians and combatants in acts of violence in SDF-controlled areas in 2024. The fatalities included members of Syria Democratic Forces (SDF) and other military formations operating in this region, such as the Internal Security Forces (Asayish), Self-Defence Forces and military councils, as well as members of regime forces and their proxy militias, ISIS members and commanders, members of ISIS cells and other unidentified gunmen.

The fatalities are distributed as follows:

Civilians: 414 civilians: 79 children, 36 women and 299 young and adult men; they are as follows:

- 136 civilians, including 15 children and 20 women, were murdered.
- 87 civilians, including three children and four women, were killed in tribal and family infightings.
- 37 civilians, including six children and three woman, were killed in airstrikes by Turkish drones.
- 30 civilians, including a child and two woman, were killed by ISIS.
- 28 civilians, including 18 children and three women, were killed by explosions of old ordnance.
- 22 civilians, including two women and 12 children, were killed in indiscriminate gunfire.
- 20 civilians, including a woman and four children, were killed by SDF.
- 13 civilians, including eight children, were killed by explosions.
- 12 civilians, including a woman and seven children, were killed in bombardment by Turkish ground forces.
- Eight civilians, including a child, were shot dead by Turkish Jandarma.
- Eight civilians were killed in airstrikes by Turkish fighter jets.

- Six civilians, including two children, were killed in bombardment by regime forces.
- Two civilians were killed by unidentified gunmen.
- Two civilians were killed by factions.
- A child was killed by Iranian-backed local gunmen.
- A child was killed in unknown circumstances.
- A young man was killed by Iraqi border guards.

Non-civilians: 263; they are as follows:

-194 members of SDF and military formations operating in SDF-controlled areas:

- 77 killed by ISIS.
- 60 killed in strikes by Turkish drones.
- 17 killed by explosions.
- 15 killed in attacks and clashes with gunmen.
- Nine killed by Turkish-backed factions.
- Eight assassinated.
- Six killed in bombardment by Turkish ground forces.
- Two killed in bombardment by former regime forces.

-42 ISIS members and commanders were killed by SDF and International Coalition Forces.

-24 regime soldiers:

- **18 killed in airstrikes by Turkish drones.**
- **Three killed in bombardment by Turkish ground forces.**
- **Two killed by SDF.**
- **One killed by factions.**

-Three local gunmen were killed in clashes with SDF.

Noticeable increase in crime rate

The crime rate in areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration in 2024 increased to a worrying level, compared to the number of murder crimes documented in 2023.

The Syrian Observatory has documented 124 murder crimes in SDF-controlled areas since early 2024, where domestic violence and armed robberies were behind some of these murders, while motivations behind the others remained unknown. These murders left 136 civilian fatalities, including 20 women and a 15 children; they are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Al-Hasakah: 37 civilians, including six children and eight women.**
- **Deir Ezzor: 48 civilians, including three children and five women.**
- **Al-Raqqah: 37 civilians, including five children and five women.**

- **Manbij:** 12 civilians, including a child and two women.
- **Ain Al-Arab (Kobani):** Two men.

Escalating tribal and family infightings

SOHR activists have reported noticeable escalation of tribal and family infightings in SDF-controlled areas in 2024 in light of the growing security chaos, proliferation of arms and military and security powers' inability to control the security situation. SOHR managed to document 132 infightings in these areas in the past year, which left 87 fatalities, including three children and four women, as well as the injury of 257 others, including 11 women and ten children. The infightings and casualties are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Deir Ezzor:** 81 infightings left 36 people, including a woman and two children, dead and 134 others injured.
- **Al-Raqqah:** 26 infightings left 36 people, including two women and two children, dead and 64 others injured.
- **Aleppo:** Nine infightings left seven persons, including a member of Asayish Forces, dead and 26 others, including an Asayish member, injured.
- **Al-Hasakah:** 16 infightings left 20 persons, including a woman, dead and 33 others injured.

266 attacks by ISIS cells

ISIS continued its operations in areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration, where it carried out several armed attacks and assassinations through gunfire, attacks with sharp tools and planting IEDs and landmines. Meanwhile, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) attempt to curb the escalating activity by the organisation and its affiliated cells by launching periodical large-scale security campaigns, backed by International Coalition Forces, targeting members of ISIS cells and suspects accused of dealing with ISIS. However, those campaigns remain timid and ineffective and have not put an end to ISIS escalating attacks in the region.

SOHR activists documented 264 attacks in 2024 carried out by ISIS cells in SDF-held areas in Deir Ezzor, Al-Hasakah, Aleppo and Al-Raqqah, including armed attacks and explosions. According to SOHR statistics, the number of people killed in these attacks reached 120; they are as follows:

- 30 civilians, including a child and two women.
- 77 members of SDF, the Internal Security Forces (Asayish) and other military formations operating in areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration.
- 13 ISIS members.

These operations are distributed regionally as follows:

- Deir Ezzor: 225 attacks left 54 combatants, 21 civilians, including a child and two women, and eight ISIS members dead.
- Al-Hasakah: 21 attacks left 11 combatants, five ISIS members and three civilians dead.

- **Al-Raqqah:** 16 attacks left ten combatants and six civilians, including four guards of civil institutions of the Autonomous Administration, dead.
- **Aleppo:** Two operations left two combatants dead.

Here is a monthly breakdown of ISIS attacks and fatalities in SDF-held areas in 2024:

- **January:** 17 attacks left one civilian, five combatants and two ISIS members dead.
- **February:** 27 attacks left seven civilians and nine combatants dead.
- **March:** 28 attacks left one civilian, nine combatants and one ISIS member dead.
- **April:** 26 attacks left four civilians, 11 combatants and two ISIS members dead.
- **May:** 24 attacks left two civilians, eight combatants and one ISIS member dead.
- **June:** 16 attacks left seven combatants and five ISIS members dead.
- **July:** 22 attacks left four civilians and three combatants dead.
- **August:** 18 attacks left two civilians, two combatants and one ISIS member dead.
- **September:** 25 attacks left a woman and seven combatants dead.
- **October:** 19 attacks left one civilian and two combatants dead.

- **November: 27 attacks left five civilians, eight combatants and one ISIS member dead.**
- **December: 15 attacks left two civilians and six combatants dead.**

On the other hand, International Coalition Forces participated in 62 joint security campaigns with SDF in 2024, including raids and airdrops, in Deir Ezzor, Al-Hasakah, Aleppo and Al-Raqqah. During these campaigns, 375 ISIS members and commanders and members of ISIS cells were arrested. In addition, 26 ISIS members and commanders and members of ISIS cells were killed in those operations.

Ongoing evacuation of Syrian and Iraqi families from Al-Hawl camp, amid repatriation of more foreign women and children

In 2024, Syrian families continued to leave Al-Hawl camp under the Syrian Democratic Council's (SDC) initiative that aimed at evacuating the camp of Syrians. However, the evacuation of Syrians from the camp has subsidised greatly in the past year, as SOHR documented the evacuation of 302 families of nearly 1,083 persons of families of ISIS members, mostly from Deir Ezzor, in four batches; they are distributed as follows:

- **May 8: 69 families of 254 people.**
- **May 18: 50 families of 166 people.**
- **May 28: 89 families of 317 people.**
- **July 28: 94 families of 346 people.**

Meanwhile, Al-Hawl camp's administration continued the evacuation of Iraqi families in coordination with the Iraqi government, where 842 Iraqi families of over 3,350 people were evacuated in five batches in 2024; they are distributed as follows:

- March 9: 150 Iraqi families left Al-Hawl Camp in Al-Hasakah countryside for their country. The families consist of 620 members from several Iraqi cities.**
- April 28: 191 Iraqi families of 714 members of ISIS members left Al-Hawl camp.**
- June 4: 176 Iraqi families, including nearly 634 members of “ISIS” families, left Al-Hawl camp in Al-Hasakah countryside towards Iraq.**
- July 29: A batch of 150 Iraqi families of 632 refugees left Al-Hawl camp.**
- October 9: 175 Iraqi families, consisting of 750 individuals, left Al-Hawl camp located in the far south-east of Al-Hasakah, towards Al-Jadaah camp located in the Iraqi city of Mosul.**

Also in 2024, 191 foreign children and 58 women of families of ISIS members were handed over to official delegations from their countries as follows:

-The Autonomous Administration handed over 72 children and 27 women of families of ISIS members, who were held in Al-Hawl camp in the south-eastern far region of Al-Hasakah countryside, to a delegation of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan according to an official document signed by both sides.

-Spanish authorities, in coordination with the Autonomous Administration, repatriated two women and two children of families of ISIS members of Spanish nationalities from Rouj camp in Al-Malikiyah countryside in north-eastern Al-Hasakah.

-The Department of Foreign Relations of the Autonomous Administration handed over 50 people of Tajik nationality to a delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan in preparation to move them to Tajikistan according to an official documentation. The 50 people are: 17 women and 33 children of families of ISIS members.

-The Department of Foreign Relations of the Autonomous Administration of northern and eastern Syria (AANES) handed over 22 women and children of different nationalities held in Rouj and Al-Hawl camps in Al-Hasakah countryside to delegations from their countries, according to official documents. Those people are distributed as follows:

- **A woman and ten children of the American nationality.**
- **A woman and three children of the Dutch nationality.**
- **Six Canadian children.**
- **A Finnish child.**

-The Department of External Affairs of the “Autonomous Administration” handed over three children and a woman of ISIS families in Rouj Camp in Al-Hasakah countryside, to the United Kingdom, according to an official document.

-22 people: eight women and 14 children from “ISIS” families, left Al-Hawl and Roj camps in Al-Hasakah countryside towards the Republic of Kyrgyzstan.

- The Autonomous Administration handed over 20 children of families of ISIS members inhabiting/held in Al-Hawl and Al-Rouj camps in Al-Hasakah countryside to Russian authorities.**
- The foreign relations department of the “Autonomous Administration” handed over a Danish woman and a child of ISIS families to a delegation of the Danish government.**
- 26 children of families of ISIS members left Al-Hawl and Roj camps in Al-Qamishli countryside north of Al-Hasakah, where they were handed over to the Russian delegation by the Department of Foreign Relations in Northern and Eastern Syria.**

Chronic crises and growing public protests

People in areas of Deir Ezzor countryside, within the areas controlled by the “Autonomous Administration”, suffer from a significant deterioration in living conditions, represented by high prices, lack of services and the absence of the role of humanitarian organizations, which prompts them to stage demonstrations demanding improving living conditions, raising the employees’ salaries and lowering prices.

In this context, many civilians staged an angry popular demonstration in Al-Sour town in SDF-held areas, in the northern countryside of Deir Ezzor

On the other hand, farmers planting wheat in areas controlled by the Autonomous Administration in Al-Hasakah countryside have complained of the non-compliance by the owners of harvesters and trucks of the prices set by the Autonomous Administration, where the owners of harvesters and trucks imposed higher prices on farmers; this, in turn, has made farmers shoulder extra cost during the current harvest season. This coincides with complete absence of monitoring by relevant authorities and lack of deterrent preventing the owners of harvesters and trucks transporting crops to silos and centres from raising the cost of harvesting and transportation.

The Autonomous Administration has set the cost of harvesting wheat at 45,000 up to 90,000 SYP per acre, and it set the fees of transportation crops from farmlands to silos and centres at 50 USD for the first ten kilograms of every cargo and one USD for every extra kilogram, as well as a sum of 200,000 SYP for every day of delay for trucks which take longer time while unloading their cargoes at centres.

However, the owners of harvesters imposed sums of money on farmers reached eight USD per acre, while the owners of trucks asked the farmers to take 300 to 600 USD every cargo in return for transporting wheat from farmlands to silos and centres.

Ironically, the Autonomous Administration did not respond to the residents' complaints over the increase in the cost of harvesting and transporting wheat.

On the other hand, the Autonomous Administration raised the price of a kilogram-pack of bread, on May 20, from 1,000 SYP to 1,500 SYP in bread bakeries which it runs. Meanwhile, the owners of private bakeries also raised the price of the pack of bread. The surprise increase in the price of bread, which coincides with the wheat harvest season, has triggered a state of public discontent.

In the meantime, and after several meetings and delay of announcing the purchase price of wheat, the Autonomous Administration issued a statement setting the purchase price of wheat from farmers at 31 US cents, which is lower than the price set by the regime government at 5,500 Syrian pounds, equivalent to 37 cents, and also lower than the price set last year at 43 cents. This triggered a state of anger and discontent among farmers in the region.

On May 27, demonstrations and sit-in protests started in the region over this decision, where residents have expressed their rejection of the Autonomous Administration's decision about setting a low price for purchasing wheat from farmers, explaining that such prices did not cover the cost of plantation, and they demanded the Autonomous Administration revoke the decision.

In this context, dozens of farmers in the cities of Al-Raqqah, Manbij, Al-Hasakah and Al-Qamishly and the towns of Al-Derbasiyah, Amouda, Al-Izbah, Al-Bomass'ah and Al-Sa'aouah in Deir Ezzor countryside staged sit-in protests, condemning the wheat pricing set by the Autonomous Administration. The protesters expressed their rejection of the decision by blocking roads, raising banners affirming their rejection of the decision and withdrawing their wheat trucks without unloading their cargoes.

On June 1, dozens of civilians gathered in front of Civil Council in Deir Ezzor in Al-Maamel area within "SDF" areas, in protest against the price of wheat set by the Agriculture and Irrigation Authority in the "Autonomous Administration" at 31 US cents after it had received it last year at 41 US cents per kilogram. Commandos forces headed to the place to prevent any quarrels and friction between the farmers and the traders who supplied wheat to the Agricultural Development Company at the current price.

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), call upon the authorities in SDF-held areas to fulfil people's demands that call for development of social and living conditions and not punishing them for demanding their rights. We also call on the International Coalition and SDF to intensify their security campaigns against active and sleeping ISIS cells in various areas in east Euphrates to prevent the revival of ISIS which poses a threat to local, regional and international security.

SOHR

SDF-controlled areas in 2024



Key developments in SDF-controlled areas in 2024

124

Murder crimes



132

Tribal and family infightings



266

Attacks by ISIS cells



Chronic crises and growing
public protests



Dramatic military escalation by
Turkish forces leaves tens of
fatalities



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Fatalities in areas held by the Autonomous Administration in 2024

677

People killed in acts of violence

79



194

Members of military formations operating in SDF-controlled areas

36



42

ISIS members and commanders

414

263

299



24

Regime soldiers

3

Local gunmen



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Coalition operations in 2024 | Nearly 100 attacks target Coalition's bases...airstrikes on positions of Iranian-backed militias leave 130 casualties...over 400 ISIS members and commanders killed and arrested in 62 security operations with SDF

International Coalition Forces have completed the 123rd consecutive month of their operations in Syria. Syria experienced noticeable developments regarding the Coalition's operations in 2024, mainly the dramatic and unprecedented escalation of military confrontations between US forces and Iranian-backed groups before the escape of the Iranians from Syria and the fall of Al-Assad's regime. In addition, the International Coalition continued cooperating with Syria Democratic Forces through sending military and logistical supplies to Syria, participation in security campaigns which aimed to eliminate ISIS cells in SDF-held areas, and targeting jihadist groups and ISIS members and commanders in north and north-west Syria.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has tracked and monitored all operations and movements by the International Coalition in 2024, which can be captured in the following main points:

401 ISIS members and commanders killed and arrested in 62 security operations with SDF

In 2024, SOHR sources monitored the participation of International Coalition Forces in 62 joint security campaigns with SDF, including raids, airdrops and attacks, in Deir Ezzor, Al-Hasakah, Aleppo and Al-Raqqah. During these campaigns, 375 ISIS members and commanders and members of ISIS cells were arrested, while 26 other members and commanders were killed.

Further details of the number and outcomes of these security campaigns are summarised monthly as follows:

- **January:** Five operations led to the arrest of seven members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of another member.
- **February:** Four operations led to the arrest of 33 members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of two other members.
- **March:** Three operations led to the arrest of 13 members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of three other members.
- **April:** Three operations led to the arrest of 98 members of ISIS cells.
- **May:** Eight operations led to the arrest of 42 members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of another member.
- **June:** Five operations led to the arrest of 18 members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of five other members.
- **July:** Six operations led to the arrest of 16 members of ISIS cells and resulted in the death of two other members.
- **August:** Six operations led to the arrest of ten ISIS members and commanders and resulted in the death of three other members.
- **September:** Seven operations led to the arrest of 13 ISIS members and commanders and resulted in the death of six other members.
- **October:** Four operations led to the arrest of three ISIS members and commanders and resulted in the death of two other members.

- **November:** Eight operations led to the arrest of 116 ISIS members and commanders and resulted in the death of another member.
- **December:** Three operations led to the arrest of six ISIS members and commanders.

Aircraft target ISIS commanders and jihadists outside SDF-controlled areas

International Coalition Forces carried out several airstrikes in areas outside SDF control in different Syrian provinces, targeting ISIS members and commanders and jihadists. SOHR documented four operations by the International Coalition in four different provinces in 2024; one in Deir Ezzor, one in Aleppo, one in Idlib and one Latakia.

Those operations left three ISIS commanders and ten jihadists dead; and they can be summarised as follows:

- **June 16:** The US General Command has announced that US aircraft executed an airstrike in Syria on June 16, which resulted in the death of a senior ISIS official called “Ossama Jamal Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Janabi.” According to SOHR sources, Syrian Democratic Forces, which are ally forces of the International Coalition, did not carry out any security operations on that day. However, SDF have not denied the death of the ISIS commander in an operation carried out by US forces alone. On the same day, SOHR activists have reported the death of a person carrying a Syrian ID, after a shell hit a site in the vicinity of “Kuwait Al-Rahma” camp in Afrin countryside. SOHR activists examined the ID which the hit man was carrying on the day of the attack, and they found out that his name was “Ahmed Ali Al-Hussein” from Karm Al-Zaytoun neighbourhood in Homs city, and that he was born in 1983. SOHR confirms that people in north-west Syria region can easily obtain fake IDs and IDs issued by the “Syrian Interim Government” after undergoing simple procedures.

- **August 23:** A drone believed to be affiliated to the International Coalition assassinated the Saudi “Abu Abdul Rahman Al-Makki,” while he was on his motorcycle on the road between Eihsem and Al-Barrah towns in Jabal Al-Zawiya area in southern Idlib countryside. “Abu Abdul Rahman Al-Makki” was a former leader in a jihadist organisation and served as a sharia official for various jihadist organisations, and he had been detained by HTS.
- **September 24:** Nine jihadists opposed to “Al-Jolani” were killed, including at least six leaders of Syrian and non-Syrian nationalities, in an attack by an “unknown” drone, yesterday evening, on two military headquarters in Duwayr Al-Akrad area near Kabanah hills in Latakia countryside, during a meeting they were holding. According to SOHR information, the dead are: (a Jordanian jihadist, an Iraqi jihadist and seven Syrians) belonging to “Jund Al-Islam” organization and others who are independent, and they are all opponents of “Al-Jolani” and some of them were detained in his prisons, and some of them fought HTS.
- **December 19:** A US drone carried out an airstrike on a vehicle near Hasrat Bridge in Al-Bokamal countryside eastern of Deir Ezzor. The airstrike caused the death of two people, one of which is called “Abo Youssef” the emir of “Wilayat Al-Khair” of ISIS cells, and the other is his companion “Hawash Al-Ogail” from Al-Ghabra Village in Al-Bokamal countryside.

Nearly 130 casualties in 42 airstrikes on positions and vehicles of Iranian-backed militias

A heightened state of tension continued in 2024 between the International Coalition and Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militias across Syria in light of the Coalition's efforts to curb and eliminate Iranian presence in Syria, before the escape of the Iranians from Syria following the fall of Al-Assad's regime.

International Coalition Forces noticeably escalated their attacks on positions of Iranian-backed militias in west Euphrates region, which was met by a series of successive attacks on US bases in Syria by an Iranian-backed group known as the "Islamic Resistance in Iraq."

According to SOHR statistics, US fighter jets and drones executed 42 rounds of airstrikes since early 2024, targeting positions, posts and vehicles of Iranian-backed militias, all in west Euphrates region in Deir Ezzor province. Those attacks left 73 Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen dead and over 56 others injured, some seriously, as well as the death of six regime soldiers.

Here is a monthly breakdown of those airstrikes and fatalities they left:

- **January:** Five airstrikes left five fatalities: three Syrians and two non-Syrians.
- **February:** Four airstrikes left 43 fatalities: ten Syrians and 24 non-Syrians.
- **March:** Three airstrikes left three fatalities: one Syrians and two non-Syrians.
- **April:** No airstrikes were documented.
- **May:** No airstrikes were documented.

- **June: One airstrike left three fatalities, all non-Syrians.**
- **July: One airstrike left no fatalities**
- **August: One airstrike left nine fatalities, all Syrians.**
- **September: Two airstrikes left two fatalities: one Syrian and one non-Syrian.**
- **October: Seven airstrikes left three fatalities, all Syrians.**
- **November: Seven airstrikes left 14 fatalities: six Syrians and eight non-Syrians.**
- **December: 11 airstrikes left six fatalities, all Syrians.**

“Islamic Resistance” attacks US bases in Syria on nearly 100 occasions

In 2024, Iranian-backed militias escalated their aerial and ground attacks on bases of the US-led Coalition in Syria to an unprecedented level, where the Syrian Observatory was able to document 99 attacks since early 2024 as a part of a series of retaliatory measures against the US forces amid the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip. Those attacks left human and material losses.

Here is a breakdown of those attacks:

- **22 attacks on Al-Omar oil field base.**
- **44 attacks on Koniko gas field base.**
- **Ten attack on Al-Shaddadi base in Al-Hasakah countryside.**

- 12 attacks on the Kharab Al-Jair base in Al-Rumailan.
- Ten attacks on Al-Tanf garrison.
- One attack on Istrahat Wazir base in Al-Hasakah countryside.

On January 28, the US Central Command acknowledged of the death of three US soldiers and injury of 25 others in an attack by a drone on Al-Tanf garrison near the border triangle between Syria, Iraq and Jordan.

Grand military reinforcement: Nearly 2,500 trucks arrive in military bases

Also, in 2024, the International Coalition continued sending military and logistical supplies to its bases in north-east Syria region, particularly Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakah. The Syrian Observatory has documented since the beginning of this year the entry of 65 batches of 2,430 trucks carrying vehicles and military and logistical supplies from Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

In addition, Coalition Forces brought in more batches of reinforcement to their bases in Syria by air, where SOHR activists have confirmed that nearly 160 cargo planes and helicopters carrying military and logistical supplies landed in US bases Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakah in 2024.

Here is a monthly breakdown of Coalition reinforcement supplies: :

- January: 130 trucks entered Syria in four batches, as well as the arrival of ten cargo planes and helicopters.
- February: 400 trucks entered Syria in 12 batches, as well as the arrival of 18 cargo planes and helicopters.

- **March:** 240 trucks entered Syria in five batches, as well as the arrival of 14 cargo planes and helicopters.
- **April:** 130 trucks entered Syria in four batches, as well as the arrival of seven cargo planes and helicopters.
- **May:** 175 trucks entered Syria in five batches, as well as the arrival of six cargo planes and helicopters.
- **June:** 155 trucks entered Syria in four batches, as well as the arrival of ten cargo planes and helicopters.
- **July:** 200 trucks entered Syria in seven batches, as well as the arrival of nine cargo planes and helicopters.
- **August:** 150 trucks entered Syria in five batches, as well as the arrival of ten cargo planes and helicopters.
- **September:** 140 trucks entered Syria in five batches, as well as the arrival of 18 cargo planes and helicopters.
- **October:** 400 trucks entered Syria in four batches, as well as the arrival of 15 cargo planes and helicopters.
- **November:** 200 trucks entered Syria in seven batches, as well as the arrival of 28 cargo planes and helicopters.
- **December:** 110 trucks entered Syria in three batches, as well as the arrival of 15 cargo planes and helicopters.

128 rounds of military drills with SDF and “Free Syria Army”

International Coalition Forces conducted tens of rounds of military drills with their allies in Syria in 2024, where Coalition Forces conducted 123 rounds of military exercises with Syria Democratic Forces in Deir Ezzor and Al-Hasakah, as well as five other rounds with the “Free Syria Army” (former Maghawir Al-Thawra) in Al-Tanf garrison in the 55 kilometre de-confliction zone, near the Syria-Jordan-Iraq border triangle.

A monthly breakdown of these round is as follows:

- **January: Nine rounds with SDF.**
- **February: Ten rounds with SDF.**
- **March: Six rounds with SDF and one round with the “Free Syria Army.”.**
- **April: Eight rounds with SDF.**
- **May: 14 rounds with SDF and one round with the “Free Syria Army.”**
- **June: 16 rounds with SDF and two rounds with the “Free Syria Army.”.**
- **July: Ten rounds with SDF.**
- **August: Ten rounds with SDF.**
- **September: 12 rounds with SDF.**
- **October: 12 rounds with SDF.**
- **November: Ten rounds with SDF and one round with the “Free**

Syria Army.”

- **December: Six rounds with SDF.**

Abductees forgotten by Coalition and SDF

69 months have passed since the International Coalition’s official declaration of the elimination of Islamic State as a dominating force over east of the Euphrates River. Despite all the developments that took place over 2024, the Coalition and SDF’s silence continues regarding ISIS abductees. No details on the fate of thousands of abductees are provided; and no information about the results of the interrogations of ISIS member is available, as thousands are held by SDF and the Coalition, east of the Euphrates.

Concerns about the abductees’ lives and fate are growing, including the fate of father Paulo Dall’Oglio, Bishop John Ibrahim, Paul Yaziji, Abdullah Al-Khalil, a British journalist, Sky News journalist, and other journalists, and hundreds of abductees from Ayn Al-Arab (Kobani) and Afrin and other people from Deir Ezzor.

2024: another year passes and no investigation into alleged Coalition massacres

Despite SOHR repeated and “unheeded” appeals, International Coalition and SDF have not announced the results of interrogations with ISIS detainees and what happened to the thousands of abductees. The Syrian Observatory had previously called upon the international community to investigate reports regarding the killing of 200 ISIS operatives and their families, women and children, in a massacre committed by the Coalition’s jets by bombing Al-Baghouz camp on March 21, 2019.

According to SOHR sources, 200 bodies were buried at dawn on that particular day, without information as to whether the International Coalition was aware of the presence of children and women from ISIS families inside the camp or not.

However, all these appeals remain unanswered. Therefore, SOHR renews its calls and appeals to all relevant parties to disclose and announce the whole facts and hold accountable those responsible for the massacres and violations over the past five years during which the Coalition were actively involved in the Syrian crisis.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, while providing adequate monitoring of Coalition operations in Syria, stresses once more that it would have been possible to avoid the heavy losses of Syrian civilian lives if the International Coalition had not ignored SOHR's calls to spare and protect civilians from its military operations, where the presence of Islamic State militants or other jihadist groups in a civilian area does not in any way justify the blank and discriminate bombardment of area and the loss of civilian lives.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also stresses that the negative impact of Turkish military intervention on civilians could have been avoided, if US Presidents had applied enough pressure on their Turkish counterpart to stop a new humanitarian crisis, displacing thousands and killing and injuring hundreds.

On the other hand, we at SOHR would like to remind the world that the oil and gas resources, controlled by the International Coalition, belong only to the Syrian people. Therefore, all the concerned parties are obliged under international laws and norms to preserve these resources and ensure that they will not be stolen or seized in any way; these resources do not belong to the “regime”, “Iran” or any other party; they belong only to the people of Syria, who have been suffering the brutalities of an ongoing war for over nine years. SOHR also warns of repercussions of exploiting these sources, seizing them or depriving the Syrians of their rights in resources.

S O H R

International Coalition operations in 2024



Detailed information on the Coalition's operations and movements in Syria in 2024



62



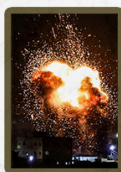
joint security operations with SDF led to the arrest and death of 401 ISIS members and commanders

99



attacks carried out by the "Islamic Resistance" on Coalition's bases in Syria

4



airstrikes in different provinces left 13 jihadists and ISIS commanders dead



129



casualties in 42 airstrikes on positions and vehicles of Iranian-backed militias



2430



trucks carrying vehicles and military and logistical supplies crossed into Syria in 65 batches



128



Coalition Forces participated in 128 rounds of military drills with SDF and the "Free Syrian Army"



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 23.

ISIS resurgence in 2024 | ISIS kills over 750 civilians and combatants in nearly 500 operations in Syrian desert and SDF-controlled areas and loses 117 fighters and commanders in counter operations

In March 2019, the Counter-ISIS International Coalition command and the leaders of Syria Democratic Forces announced the elimination of the so-called Caliphate of the “Islamic State,” but developments on the ground prove that the defeat of ISIS in Syrian territory, according to the declaration, was “symbolic” and that ISIS has been only eliminated as a controlling power in populated areas.

ISIS continues executing almost-daily military operations and counter-attacks in areas controlled by Syrian Democratic Forces and the Syrian desert, while ISIS cells are still able to exploit opportunities to create a security vacuum and carry out assassinations, which clearly indicates that the “Islamic State” is still alive and kicking.

Meanwhile, the frequent security campaigns and military operations by Russian and former regime forces, International Coalition Forces and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) have all failed so far to curb or hinder ISIS’s escalating activities.

In this report, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) highlights key developments and statistics related to ISIS resurgence and activities in all zones of influence across Syria in 2024.

ISIS kills 646 people in the Syrian desert

ISIS continues launching military operations against regime forces and their allies in different areas in the Syrian desert, which clearly indicate that the “Islamic State” is still alive and able to inflict heavy losses. It is worth noting that ISIS is deployed in an area of some 4,000 square kilometres scattered in the Syrian desert, precisely the area stretching from Jabal Abu Rajmayn area in north-eastern Palmyra to Deir Ezzor desert and western countryside, areas in Al-Sukhnah desert and areas to the north of the administrative border of Al-Suwaidaa province.

ISIS operations in 2024, which included ambushes, armed attacks and explosions, were concentrated in Aleppo-Hama-Al-Raqqah triangle, the eastern desert of Homs and the deserts of Deir Ezzor and Al-Raqqah. Those operations were met with security campaigns by former regime forces and their proxy militias in the Syrian desert, amid “timid” airstrikes by Russian fighter jets.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) documented considerable escalation of ISIS operation in 2024, which left a large number of fatalities compared to ISIS resurgence in 2023, as SOHR activists confirmed the death of 646 people in over 227 operations carried out by ISIS in the Syrian desert since early 2024.

The fatalities are distributed as follows:

- 78 civilians, including two children and a woman.
- 568 members of regime forces and their proxy militias, including 44 Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen.
- 58 ISIS members, 30 of whom were killed in Russian airstrikes and the others were killed by regime forces and their proxy militias and shepherds..

Here is a regional distribution of ISIS attacks in 2024:

-Homs desert: 102 operations left 360 fatalities:

- 291 combatants, including 15 Iranian-backed militiamen.
- 36 ISIS members.
- 33 civilians, including two truffle pickers.

-Deir Ezzor desert: 76 operations left 190 fatalities:

- 150 combatants, including 17 Iranian-backed militiamen.
- 14 ISIS members.
- 26 civilians, including 17 truffle pickers, among them there was a woman.

-Al-Raqqah desert: 26 operations left 77 fatalities:

- 60 combatants, including two Iranian-backed militiamen.
- Five ISIS members.
- 12 civilians, including two truffle pickers.

-Hama desert: 21 operations left 72 fatality:

- 62 combatant, including seven Iranian-backed militiamen.
- Seven civilians, including a child.
- Three ISIS members.

-Aleppo: Two operations left five combatants, including three Iranian-backed militiamen, dead.

Here is a monthly breakdown of those operations and the fatalities they left:

-January: 26 operations left 77 fatalities:

- 60 combatants.
- Nine civilians.
- Eight ISIS members.

-February: 33 operations left 76 fatalities:

- 55 combatants.
- Eight civilians.
- 13 ISIS members.

-March: 39 operations left 105 fatalities:

- 82 combatants.
- 20 civilians.
- Three ISIS members.

-April: 21 operations left 78 fatalities, all combatants.

-May: 13 operations left 44 fatalities, all combatants.

-June: 22 operations left 61 fatalities:

- 53 combatants.
- Six civilians.
- Two ISIS members.

-July: 16 operations left 32 fatalities:

- 26 combatants.
- Six civilian.

-August: Nine operations left 21 fatalities, all combatants.

-September: 14 operations left 32 fatalities:

- 24 combatants.
- Eight civilians.

-October: 12 operations left 23 fatalities, all combatants.

-November: 13 operations left 22 fatalities:

- 19 combatants.
- One civilian.
- Two ISIS members.

-December: Nine operations left 103 fatalities:

- 83 combatants.

- 20 civilians.

264 attacks by ISIS cells in SDF-controlled areas

ISIS continued its operations in areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration in 2024, where it carried out several armed attacks and assassinations through gunfire, attacks with sharp tools and planting IEDs and landmines. Meanwhile, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) attempt to curb the escalating activity by the organisation and its affiliated cells by launching periodical large-scale security campaigns, backed by International Coalition Forces, targeting members of ISIS cells and suspects accused of dealing with ISIS. However, those campaigns remain timid and ineffective and have not put an end to ISIS escalating attacks in the region.

SOHR activists documented 264 attacks in 2024 carried out by ISIS cells in SDF-held areas in Deir Ezzor, Al-Hasakah, Aleppo and Al-Raqqah, including armed attacks and explosions. According to SOHR statistics, the number of people killed in these attacks reached 120; they are as follows:

- 30 civilians, including a child and two women.
- 77 members of SDF, the Internal Security Forces (Asayish) and other military formations operating in areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration.
- 13 ISIS members.

These operations are distributed regionally as follows:

- Deir Ezzor: 225 attacks left 54 combatants, 21 civilians, including a child and two women, and eight ISIS members dead.

- **Al-Hasakah: 21 attacks left 11 combatants, five ISIS members and three civilians dead.**
- **Al-Raqqah: 16 attacks left ten combatants and six civilians, including four guards of civil institutions of the Autonomous Administration, dead.**
- **Aleppo: Two operations left two combatants dead.**

Here is a monthly breakdown of ISIS attacks and fatalities in SDF-held areas in 2024:

- **January: 17 attacks left one civilian, five combatants and two ISIS members dead.**
- **February: 27 attacks left seven civilians and nine combatants dead.**
- **March: 28 attacks left one civilian, nine combatants and one ISIS member dead.**
- **April: 26 attacks left four civilians, 11 combatants and two ISIS members dead.**
- **May: 24 attacks left two civilians, eight combatants and one ISIS member dead.**
- **June: 16 attacks left seven combatants and five ISIS members dead.**
- **July: 22 attacks left four civilians and three combatants dead.**
- **August: 18 attacks left two civilians, two combatants and one ISIS member dead.**

- **September: 25 attacks left a woman and seven combatants dead.**
- **October: 19 attacks left one civilian and two combatants dead.**
- **November: 27 attacks left five civilians, eight combatants and one ISIS member dead.**
- **December: 15 attacks left two civilians and six combatants dead.**

On the other hand, International Coalition Forces participated in 62 joint security campaigns with SDF in 2024, including raids and airdrops, in Deir Ezzor, Al-Hasakah, Aleppo and Al-Raqqah. During these campaigns, 375 ISIS members and commanders and members of ISIS cells were arrested. In addition, 26 ISIS members and commanders and members of ISIS cells were killed in those operations.

Ongoing efforts to impose influence in populated areas

As a part of efforts by ISIS to prove its power and impose influence, imposition of taxes and levies under “Zakat” noticeably increased in February by ISIS members on wholesalers, the owners of cars and oil investors in SDF-held areas in Deir Ezzor. According to SOHR sources, the amount of taxes and levies were doubled this year, compared to the latest years, where approximately 616,000 USD were imposed on merchants and oil investors, according to the latest statistics.

While on May 30, ISIS cells stuck leaflets on the walls in Theban town in eastern Deir Ezzor countryside, where the leaflets included threats to the owners of fuel trucks of SDF, warnings them against working in oil business in Deir Ezzor countryside. The posters stated: “to all drivers of oil trucks and carriers in general in Al-Khair state, we inform you that any truck that enters Theban’s refineries or carries oil for the apostate Al-Dhib or Hamza Al-Sayed will be a target for us. All trucks that move oil from the eastern and western wells of Al-Khair state are targets for us. Every truck will be targeted as of May 30.”

A day later, May 31, ISIS cells continue to threaten the owners of oil trucks of SDF for the second consecutive day, where they stuck leaflets on the walls in Al-Baseiyrah town in eastern Deir Ezzor countryside and the village of Al-Harijiyah in northern Deir Ezzor countryside, in which they threatened to target the trucks that move oil from the eastern and western wells.

ISIS loses 117 fighters and commanders in counter attacks and security operations

Since early 2024, ISIS lost 117 fighters and commanders in aerial and ground attacks, assassinations, security operations and clashes in all zones of influence across the entire Syrian geography.

Here is a breakdown of ISIS fatalities in 2024:

- 30 killed in Russian airstrikes.
- 28 killed by former regime forces.
- 42 killed by SDF and International Coalition Forces.
- 17 killed in incidents of security chaos in Daraa province.

Islamic State's abductees: ignored and unaccounted

Although nearly 69 months have passed since the International Coalition's announcement of the defeat of ISIS which was a dominant force east of Euphrates River, and with the recent developments over the past period, however, silence still surrounds the issue of ISIS's abductees. All sides remain quiet and provide no clarification on the fate of thousands of abductees, where fear continues to grow for the lives and fate of the abductees, including Father Paolo Daololio, Bishops John Ibrahim and Paul Yazji, Abdullah Al Khalil, a British journalist, sky News journalist and other journalists, in addition to hundreds of abductees from Ain Al Arab (Kobani) area and Afrin, as well as the people of Deir Ezzor.

With the continuing crimes and violations against Syrian civilians, including death threats against SOHR workers by the Islamic State and other killers and criminals in Syria, The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights renews its vows to continue its work by monitoring, documenting and publishing all violations and crimes that committed against the Syrian people.

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, renew our call to the UN Security Council to refer those war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Syria to the International Criminal Court so that all the criminals and killers of the Syrian people are brought to justice.

The Syrian Observatory also points out that it had already warned, well before "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant" declared itself as a "Caliphate State" in Syria and Iraq, that this organization did intend to work for the Syrian people and serve their interest, but rather ISIS continued to kill innocent Syrians, who had been suffering the brutality of war and violence and became displaced.

Furthermore, the “Islamic State” recruited children in the so-called “cubs of the caliphate”, controlled the wealth and resources of the Syrian people and harnessed them to build a “caliphate”, and traded openly back and forth with one of Syria’s neighbouring countries.

SOHR

ISIS resurgence in 2024



ISIS killed **753** people in 2024

753

3



44

Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian
militiamen

3



524

Members of regime forces and their
proxy militias

108

645

102



70

Members of military formations
operating in SDF-controlled areas



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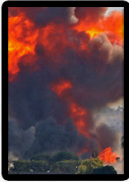
Syrian Observatory For Human Rights





ISIS lost **117** fighters and commanders in 2024

3



Killed in Russian airstrikes



28



Killed by regime forces



42



Killed by SDF and International Coalition Forces



17



Killed in incidents of security disorder in Daraa province



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 29.

Russian intervention in Syria in 2024 | Fighter jets commit six massacres in “Putin-Erdogan” area and kill 88 civilians...685 airstrikes on ISIS hideouts in Syrian desert kill and injure nearly 120 ISIS members

On September 30, 2015, the Council of the Russian Federation granted the Russian president Vladimir Putin the mandate to intervene militarily in Syria, where Russian forces launched a series of strikes and raids, and provided military and political support to the Al-Assad regime, which changed the map of alliances and power balances for the benefit of Bashar Al-Assad, before his escape on December 2024.

With the scores of developments that Syria experienced in 2024, the Russians focused on several interests inside Syria, including attempts to exercise hegemony over the entire country and to eliminate Iran’s presence or at least contain its expansion in Syria, as well as sponsoring agreements and reconciliation deals.

In 2024, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has managed to monitor and document crucial developments related directly to the Russian intervention in Syria. These key developments can be summarised in the following main points:

226 airstrikes on the “de-escalation zone” kill 60 civilians

SOHR documented over 226 airstrikes by Russian fighter jets on the “de-escalation zone” in 2024, precisely since February 29, as Russian fighter jets did not execute any airstrikes in the first two months of 2024. These airstrikes resulted in the death of 66 people; they are distributed as follows:

- 60 civilians, including 16 children and seven woman.**

- A member of the “Turkistan Islamic Party.”
- Five members of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham.

The Russian airstrikes on the “de-escalation zone” in 2024 targeted positions and sites in over 35 areas; they are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Idlib:** The outskirts and surrounding areas of Idlib city, Hursh Basnqoul, Jozif, Al-Bara, Al-Shatouriyah, Batanta, Mu’taram, Maarrat Masrin, Al-Kendah, Mar’and, Kafrideen, Ain Al-Zarqaa, Darkoush, Kansafrah, Ain Larouz, Deir Sonbol, Taftnaz, Sarmin, Saan, the surrounding areas of Saraqeb, Dadikh, Ariha, Kafr Owaid, Qumaynas, the surrounding areas of Binnish, Tel Al-Karamah, Al-Ghssaniyah, sugar factory, Hursh Arab, Shenan, Al-Ruwayha, Ihsim, Maarbalit, Hursh Al-Hamamah, Hursh Basel and Sheikh Sandyan.
- **Latakia:** Kabana frontline in the northern countryside of Latakia.
- **Hama:** Al-Qarqour and Al-Sarmaniyah in Sahl Al-Ghab in the western countryside of Hama.
- **Aleppo:** Darat Izzah, Qubaytan Al-Jabal, Kafr Taal, Al-Nayrab, Ibzimu, Sheikh Barakat and Al-Atareb in the western countryside of Aleppo.

Among the total death toll, 47 civilians were killed in four massacres committed by Russian fighter jets, with the first taking place on October 16 when 12 civilians, including two children, were killed and 30 others, including 14 children, were injured, some seriously, in Russian airstrikes on a sawmill, a furniture workshop and an olive presser on the outskirts of Idlib city.

The second massacre took place on November 28 when 15 civilians, including four children and two women, were killed and five others, including two children, were injured in Russian airstrikes in Al-Atareb city.

The third massacre was documented on December 1 when eight civilians, including two children and a woman, were killed and more than 50 others were injured in Russian airstrikes on a displaced camps in Al-Jame'ah neighbourhood in Idlib city.

The fourth massacre took place on December 2 when 13 civilians, including eight children and three women, were killed in Russian airstrikes on Al-Khamarah street near Idlib city's market.

Here is a monthly breakdown of Russian airstrikes documented by SOHR in “Putin-Erdogan” area in 2024:

- **January: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **February: Four airstrikes left a civilian dead.**
- **March: 12 airstrikes left no fatalities.**
- **April: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **May: Five airstrikes left a member of “Turkistan Islamic Party” dead.**
- **June: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **July: 21 airstrikes left a member of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham dead.**
- **August: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **September: No airstrikes were documented.**

- **October: 74 airstrikes left 12 civilians and four HTS members dead.**
- **November: 83 airstrikes left 23 civilians dead.**
- **December: 17 airstrikes left 24 civilian fatalities.**

It is worth noting that other areas outside the “de-escalation zone” also experienced airstrikes and massacres committed by Russian aircraft, where SOHR documented the death of 28 civilians, 20 HTS members and 14 militiamen of the “National Army” in Aleppo due to Russian airstrikes in late November and early December.

SOHR also documented two massacres in Aleppo with the first of which taking place on November 30 when airstrikes executed by Russian fighter jets targeted a crowd at Al-Basel roundabout, killing 16 civilians and injuring 20 others.

While the other massacre took place on December 1 when Russian fighter jets carried out airstrikes on Aleppo University’s campus in Aleppo city centre, killing eight civilians and injuring 23 others.

Moreover, Russian fighter jets carried out several airstrikes on February 29, targeting the frontlines of Qabaseen, Jabal Al-Deir and the surrounding areas of Al-Bab city which are controlled by Turkish-backed factions of “Euphrates Shield” operations room in the eastern countryside of Aleppo, killing a member of “Ahrar Al-Sham” faction and the injury of five other members of the same faction.

685 airstrikes kill 30 ISIS members in Syrian desert

In 2024, Russian aircraft noticeably escalated their airstrikes on caves and bunkers where ISIS members are hiding in the Syrian desert, where the “timid” airstrikes on the Syrian desert were concentrated in positions in Aleppo-Hama-Al-Raqqah triangle, the eastern desert of Homs and the deserts of Deir Ezzor and Al-Raqqah.

SOHR documented over 685 airstrikes by Russian fighter jets on ISIS hideouts in the Syrian desert in 2024, which killed 30 ISIS members and injured 87 others. Here is the monthly distribution of these airstrikes and fatalities they left:

- January: 40 airstrikes left no fatalities.
- February: 60 airstrikes left no fatalities.
- March: 75 airstrikes left no fatalities.
- April: 90 airstrikes left three members dead.
- May: 30 airstrikes left no fatalities.
- June: 100 airstrikes left seven members dead.
- July: 50 airstrikes left four members dead.
- August: 30 airstrikes left two members dead.
- September: 65 airstrikes left five members dead.
- October: 55 airstrikes left three members dead.
- November: 90 airstrikes left six members dead.

- **December: No airstrikes were documented.**

Separately, a prominent event took place on October 12 when SOHR sources reported that two Russian officers, three members of regime forces, including two brigadier generals, and two persons of unidentified nationalities were killed in artillery fire of unknown origin in the area between Khasham and Hatlah in Deir Ezzor countryside within areas controlled by regime forces and Iranian-backed militias, where Russian forces were accompanied by the regime forces.

Ten joint patrols with Turkish forces in north-east Syria

Joint patrols by Russian and Turkish forces in north-east Syria region have been suspended since September 21, 2023, before the two counterparts resumed joint patrols in August 2024. SOHR documented ten joint patrols by Russian and Turkish forces in that region in 2024, precisely in August, September and October, mostly toured areas near the Syria-Turkey border, with nine patrol having been run in Aleppo countryside, specifically the western and eastern countryside of Ain Al-Arab (Kobani), and only one other having been run in Al-Hasakah countryside. Some patrols have been attacked by civilians opposing the Russian-Turkish agreement. Here is a monthly distribution of Turkish-Russian patrols in 2024:

- **August: Two patrols, one in Aleppo and one in Al-Hasakah.**
- **September: Four patrols in Aleppo.**
- **October: Four patrols in Aleppo.**

Efforts to gain populist support

As a part of exploiting the residents' dire living conditions and efforts to woo Syrian people to gain populist support, the Russian reconciliation centre distributed aid supplies in 2024 and before the fall of Al-Assad's regime to hundreds of families in Al-Hasakah, Rif Dimashq, Deir Ezzor, Homs, Daraa, Latakia and other provinces on different occasions. The aid supplies mainly included medicines, pre-paid medical checkups, medical supplies, clothes, detergents, school supplies and stationeries and baskets of foodstuffs, such as rice, sugar, tea, milk, bulgur, flour, cooking oil and canned food.

16 rounds of military drills with the 25th Division

Russian forces and the regime and Russian-backed 25th Division conducted 16 rounds of military drills in 2024, precisely in January, February and March, where Russian forces supervised the military exercises and parachuting which fighters underwent, before being transported from Hmeimim military airbase to Ukraine to join military battles alongside Russian forces for high monthly salaries.

The rounds of military drills are distributed as follows:

- **January:** Six rounds, four in the eastern countryside of Aleppo and two in Hama countryside.
- **February:** Seven rounds in the eastern countryside of Aleppo.
- **March:** Three rounds in the eastern countryside of Aleppo.

Russian forces establish observation posts near border with occupied Syrian Golan

Attempting to ease off military escalation between Israeli forces and groups working for the Lebanese Hezbollah, Russian forces established 17 observation posts near the border with the occupied Syrian Golan in different times in 2024. Further details can be summarised as follows:

- **January 3:** Russian forces established observation posts in the following villages and towns of the western countryside of Al-Quneitra: Al-Qahtaniyah, Be'r Ajam, Bariqah, Kodnah, Al-Mu'alaqah, Al-Rafeed and Ghadeer Al-Bostan.
- **January 7:** Russian forces established two observation posts near the occupied Syrian Golan, while Russian forces were deployed in Be'r Ajam and Al-Mu'alaqah villages in the western countryside of Al-Quneitra.
- **February 19:** Russian forces installed an observation post on the border with the occupied Syrian Golan, in the western plains area of Bir Al-Ajam town in the western countryside of Al-Qunaitrah.
- **March 20:** Russian forces established an observation post in the western plains area near B'er Al-Ajam town in western Al-Qunaitrah countryside.
- **April 3:** Russian forces established an observation post in the western plains area of Al-Muallaqah town in the western countryside of Al-Qunaitrah, near the border with the occupied Syrian Golan.
- **April 11:** Russian forces established two observation posts on the border with the occupied Syrian Al-Golan, where they were stationed in a military position of regime forces in Tel Mashara

and in Tel Karam to the west of Jabba town in the middle countryside of Al-Qonaitara.

- **September 25: Russian forces established two observation posts in the western plains area in Bir Al-Ajam town and Bariqah town in the western countryside of Al-Qunaitrah near the border with the occupied Syrian Golan.**

Between the 30th of September 2015 and the 30th of December 2024, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights documented the death of 21,363 persons. The breakdown of fatalities is as follows:

- **8,816 civilians: 2,139 children under the age of eighteen, 1,335 females over the age of eighteen, 5,342 men and young people**
- **6,244 ISIS members**
- **6,303 fighters of rebel and Islamic Factions, Hayyaat Tahrir al-Sham, the Islamic Turkestani Party, and fighters of Arab and foreign nationalities.**

SOHR sources have reported that Russia used “Thermite-type explosives” in their airstrikes, a substance composed of aluminium powder and iron oxide which causes burns as it continues to ignite for about 180 seconds; some bombs used by Russian jets on the Syrian territory were loaded with this substance.

It has been discovered that they are “RBK-500 ZAB 2.5 SM” cluster incendiary bombs each weighing about 500 kg (about 1100 pounds (ca. 499 kilograms)) and they were dropped by military aircraft. They carried anti-individuals and anti-vehicles small-sized bombs of the type (AO 2.5 RTM), loaded with 50 to 110 small-sized bombs stuffed with “Thermite”, which outpour out of it when they explode; the range of these anti-individuals and anti-vehicles bombs reaches 20 to 30 metres.

As years pass, the Syrians suffer the scourge of the Russian intervention, which cited “fight against terrorism” as an excuse to commit horrific massacres against innocent civilians. Russia also sponsored agreements, then quickly abdicated its duties and abandoned guarantees it vowed to fulfil. Russia’s firepower, shells and missiles have been deadly and fatal. Russia has Syrian blood on its hands, despite its attempt to act as the one coming to lay values of peace and coexistence.

SOHR

Russian intervention in Syria in 2024



Russian intervention in Syria in 2024

266

Airstrikes on "Putin-Erdogan"
area left 66 fatalities

16



1

Member of "Turkistan Islamic Party"

7



5

Members of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham

60

6

37



6

Massacres committed by Russian fighter jets

10

Joint patrols with Turkish forces in north-east Syria

685

Airstrikes on the Syrian desert left 30 ISIS members dead



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The Syrian Observatory would like to point out that all information and figures mentioned in this report have been documented and updated until the date of publication, December 30.



**Areas that were under control of the deposed regime in 2024 |
Over 2,700 fatalities in acts of violence...310 murder crimes...322
incidents of security disorder...nearly 120 infightings,
assassinations and attacks**

The Syrian regime and its allies have frequently called upon Syrian refugees to return to their homeland which has become “safe and stable,” as they claim. However, areas that were under the control of the deposed regime experienced several worrying developments, dramatic acts of violence and blatant human rights violations in 2024, before the stunning fall of Al-Assad’s regime and the escape of Bashar Al-Assad to Russia on December 8.

As a human rights organisation, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked all developments in regime-controlled areas in 2024, before the fall of Al-Assad’s regime. These developments can be summarised in the following main points:

Acts of violence leaves hundreds of fatalities

In 2024, SOHR has documented the death of 2,704 people in various acts of violence in regime-controlled areas during the period from January 1 to December 8, before the fall of the regime. This death toll does not include members of former regime forces and their proxy militias, who were killed during the “Deterrence of Aggression” operation which was launched on November 27 and led to the fall of Al-Assad’s regime on December 8.

The fatalities are distributed as follows:

Civilians: 878 civilians: 113 children, 125 women and 640 young and adult men:

- 343 civilians, including 22 children and 64 women, were murdered.
- 125 civilians, including 23 women and 35 children, were killed by explosions of old ordnance.
- 93 civilians, including nine women and 22 children, killed in incidents of security disorder in Daraa province.
- 85 civilians, including 13 children and 16 women, were killed in Israeli attacks.
- 78 civilians, including two children and a woman, were killed by ISIS.
- 54 civilians, including a woman, died under torture in regime prisons.
- 39 civilians, including three women and 13 children, were killed in indiscriminate gunfire.
- 16 civilians were killed by security forces of the former regime.
- 15 civilians, including two children and six women, were killed in strikes by Jordanian forces.
- Ten civilians, including a child and a woman, were killed by explosions of IEDs and landmines.
- Ten civilians, including two children and a woman, were killed by SDF.

- Seven civilians, including a child and a woman, were killed by rebels and jihadists.
- One civilian was killed by International Coalition Forces.
- One civilian was killed in unknown circumstances.
- One civilian was killed by Iraqi border guards.

Non-civilians: 1,826 people:

-1,075 members of regime forces and proxy militias:

- 524 killed by ISIS.
- 256 killed by rebels and jihadists.
- 102 killed in incidents of security disorder in Daraa.
- 71 assassinated.
- 64 killed in Israeli strikes.
- 35 killed in internal infightings.
- 11 killed by SDF.
- Seven killed by explosions of IEDs and landmine.
- Three killed in clashes with gunmen.
- Two killed in bombardment of unknown origin.

-563 Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen:

- 188 non-Syrian militiamen were killed in Israeli attacks.
- 164 Syrian militiamen were killed in ISIS attacks.
- 73 Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen were killed in aerial and ground strikes by International Coalition Forces.
- 44 militiamen, mostly Syrians, were killed by ISIS.
- 40 Syrian militiamen were assassinated.
- 22 Syrian militiamen were killed by rebels and jihadists.
- 21 Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen were killed in clashes with SDF.
- Four Syrian militiamen were killed by explosions.
- Three Iraqi militiamen were assassinated.
- Two Syrian militiamen working for the Lebanese Hezbollah were shot dead by Jordanian border guards.
- Two Syrian militiamen were killed by regime forces.

-111 gunmen were killed in different circumstances:

- 62 killed in incidents of security disorder in Daraa province.
- 23 killed in clashes with Jordanian forces.
- 15 killed in infightings and indiscriminate gunfire.
- 11 killed in clashes with regime forces.

-75 ISIS members:

- **30 killed in Russian airstrikes.**
- **28 killed by former regime forces.**
- **17 killed in incidents of security disorder in Daraa province.**

Crime rate is on the rise

In 2024, regime-held areas experienced an alarming escalation of crime rates, in light of the failure of regime security services to put an end to the state of disorder and rampant security chaos in all Syrian provinces.

The Syrian Observatory documented 310 murders in regime-controlled areas in 2024, where domestic violence and armed robberies were behind some of these murders, while motives behind the others remained unknown. These murder crimes left 343 fatalities: 64 women, 257 young and adult men and 22 children. The fatalities are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Daraa: 97 murder crimes left 89 men, six children and 14 women dead.**
- **Rif Dimashq: 52 murder crimes left 41 men, five children and 11 women dead.**
- **Homs: 29 murder crimes left 25 men, a little girl and four women dead.**
- **Al-Suwaida: 31 murder crimes left 24 men, two children and seven women dead.**

- **Hama: 19 murder crimes left 13 men, seven women and three children dead.**
- **Tartus: 13 murder crimes left 11 men, a child and a woman dead.**
- **Deir Ezzor: 16 murder crimes left 13 men, a child and six women dead.**
- **Damascus: 17 murder crimes left 14 men and four women dead.**
- **Latakia: 12 murder crimes left nine men, three women and two children dead.**
- **Aleppo: 17 murder crimes left 12 men, six women and a child dead.**
- **Al-Hasakah: Three murder crimes left three men dead.**
- **Al-Quneitra: Three murder crimes left two men and a woman dead.**
- **Al-Raqqah: One murder crime left a young man dead.**

Light decrease in the number of incidents of security disorder in “the cradle of the Syrian Revolution”

Daraa province, the “cradle of the Syrian Revolution,” witnessed a light decrease in the rate of security chaos incidents and attacks in 2024, compared to the number of attacks documented in 2023, where SOHR documented 322 attacks, which left 307 people dead; and they are as follows:

- **93 civilians, including nine women and 22 children.**

- 94 regime soldiers, members and collaborators with regime security services.
- 23 men accused of “involving in drug business.”
- Six members of the Russian-backed 8th Brigade.
- 17 ISIS members, including a commander.
- 62 members of local factions.
- Nine persons collaborating with the Lebanese Hezbollah.
- A regime dissident colonel.
- Two unidentified persons.

119 infightings and assassinations and attacks target combatants

In 2024, SOHR documented 28 infightings and 91 assassinations and attacks which targeted members of former regime forces and security services in Deir Ezzor, Damascus, Rif Dimashq, Homs, Daraa, Al-Hasakah, Al-Quneitra, Tartus, Hama, Aleppo, Al-Suwaidaa and Latakia provinces. Those infightings and attacks left scores of combatants dead and wounded.

Chronic crises and dreadful humanitarian situation

Before the fall of Al-Assad's regime, residents in areas that were under the control of the former regime in all Syrian provinces struggled with dreadful economic and living conditions in light of the astronomically inflated prices of basic products, lack of job opportunities, low wages and salaries and freefall of the Syrian currency against the US dollar, at a time when the government of the deposed regime adopted no procedures that could probably improve the living conditions of residents. Moreover, the harsh weather in winter has deepened the sufferings of civilians who have failed to secure their families' needs.

It is worth noting that the deposed regime president "Bashar Al-Assad" issued two legislative decrees, the first of which stipulated a severe punishment against those who work in the money-changing profession "without a permit" or those who transport or transfer foreign currencies outside Syria.

The latest legislative decree stipulated the penalty of 5 to 15 years' imprisonment, a fine of three times the amount confiscated, provided that the fine shall not be less than 25 million Syrian pounds, and the confiscation of the entire seized amount.

The other legislative decree prohibited dealing in non-Syrian pounds in trading and dealing, with keeping the prison sentence without increasing the duration of those who deal in non-Syrian pound, while them to settle to remission the prison sentence, while obliging them to pay a fine equal to the equal of the amount traded.

In 2024, the Syrian Lira against the US dollar reached 14,900 liras for one USD in the capital, Damascus, while in the city of Aleppo it reached 15,000 liras, and in Al-Hasakah city, it reached 15,250 liras, while the head of the regime and his government are unable to take any move to revive the economy in areas they control and save the Syrian Lira from further collapse.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection of the former regime government raised the price of gasoline several times, where the price of petrol (Octane 90) reached 11,000 SYP per litre and petrol (Octane 95) increased to 14,110 SYP per litre, while the duty free diesel reached 12,290 SYP per litre.

The successive increase in the fuel prices has led to raising the prices of all foodstuffs and basic products, which triggered a state of anger among residents who expressed their discontent in posts they published on social media, where many users commented on the inflated prices, describing them as “unaffordable” and accusing the regime government of following a strategy designed to starve Syrian people through issuing unjust decisions and decrees. The residents also accused the government that it exerted no efforts to monitor markets or put an end to stockpiling of goods by merchants affiliated with the Syrian regime. They also called for finding workable solutions ending their sufferings, mainly raising salaries and wages to meet the requirements of their livelihood.

Some residents commented on the latest decision, saying that the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection had to be named “Consumer Looting,” instead of “Consumer Protection,” and they also accused merchants and shop keepers of intentionally raising prices to a level unaffordable by the many and being not complied with the prices set by the ministry.

Finally, the dictatorship of Al-Assad’s family has irrevocably gone. The family that have oppressed and humiliated Syrian people since the first day after Hafez Al-Assad having reached power, while the son, Bashar, followed his father’s footsteps and has not been hesitated when it came to kill his people, clinging only to power.

For nearly 14 years, after the onset of the Syrian Revolution in 2011, Bashar Al-Assad’s regime has committed horrific war crimes and

unforgivable human right violations against innocent and unarmed civilians, including killing, humiliation, arbitrary arrests and brutal torture, before the fall of the regime and escape of Bashar on December 8.

We, at the Syrian Observatory, renew our calls to bring Al-Assad, his affiliates and all those responsible for violations and those who aided and abetted the killing of Syrian people to justice.

S O H R

Areas that were under the control of the deposed regime in 2024



Casualties in areas that were under control of the deposed regime in 2024

2,704

People killed in acts of violence

113



1,075

Members of regime forces and their proxy militias

125



563

Iranian-backed militiamen

878

1,826

640



111

Gunmen

75

ISIS members

2

Russian soldiers



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Iran's presence in Syria in 2024 | 563 militiamen killed in aerial and ground attacks and humiliating withdrawal of Iranians from Syria after having wreaked havoc for years

Iran and its proxy militias continued their efforts to expand their influence in most areas under the “symbolic” regime control, before the stunning fall of Al-Assad’s regime, as neither attacks by Israel and the International Coalition, nor the “cold war” with Russia could hinder the alarming entrenchment and expansion in these areas across Syria. Only the Syrian people’s will could gain victory at last and forced Bashar Al-Assad to escape from Syria, which was followed by humiliating withdrawals by Iranians who wreaked havoc in Syria for years.

In the following report, SOHR highlights the key developments in areas dominated by the Iranians in Syria in 2024.

Death toll of aerial and ground attacks on Iranian-backed militias’ positions

There is no doubt that attempts and efforts by the major powers to eliminate Iran’s presence in Syria, which manifested themselves in frequent rocket attacks and airstrikes on headquarters, military units and ammunition warehouses, have inflicted on Iranian forces and their proxies heavy human and material losses. However, these losses remained incomparable to the gains Iran achieved under its limitless ambition in the region.

SOHR documented the death of 563 Iranian-backed militiamen in attacks on their positions in Syria in 2024. A breakdown of these fatalities, according to the perpetrator and method of death categories, is as follows:

- 188 non-Syrian militiamen were killed in Israeli attacks.**

- 164 Syrian militiamen were killed in ISIS attacks.
- 73 Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen were killed in aerial and ground strikes by International Coalition Forces.
- 44 militiamen, mostly Syrians, were killed by ISIS.
- 40 Syrian militiamen were assassinated.
- 22 Syrian militiamen were killed by rebels and jihadists.
- 21 Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen were killed in clashes with SDF.
- Four Syrian militiamen were killed by explosions.
- Three Iraqi militiamen were assassinated.
- Two Syrian militiamen working for the Lebanese Hezbollah were shot dead by Jordanian border guards.
- Two Syrian militiamen were killed by regime forces.

Nearly 130 casualties in 42 airstrikes on positions and vehicles of Iranian-backed militias

A heightened state of tension continued in 2024 between the International Coalition and Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militias across Syria in light of the Coalition's efforts to curb and eliminate Iranian presence in Syria, before the escape of the Iranians from Syria following the fall of Al-Assad's regime.

International Coalition Forces noticeably escalated their attacks on positions of Iranian-backed militias in west Euphrates region, which was met by a series of successive attacks on US bases in Syria by an Iranian-backed group known as the “Islamic Resistance in Iraq.”

According to SOHR statistics, US fighter jets and drones executed 42 rounds of airstrikes since early 2024, targeting positions, posts and vehicles of Iranian-backed militias, all in west Euphrates region in Deir Ezzor province. Those attacks left 73 Iranian-backed Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen dead and over 56 others injured, some seriously, as well as the death of six regime soldiers.

Here is a monthly breakdown of those airstrikes and fatalities they left:

- **January: Five airstrikes left five fatalities: three Syrians and two non-Syrians.**
- **February: Four airstrikes left 43 fatalities: ten Syrians and 24 non-Syrians.**
- **March: Three airstrikes left three fatalities: one Syrians and two non-Syrians.**
- **April: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **May: No airstrikes were documented.**
- **June: One airstrike left three fatalities, all non-Syrians.**
- **July: One airstrike left no fatalities**
- **August: One airstrike left nine fatalities, all Syrians.**
- **September: Two airstrikes left two fatalities: one Syrian and one non-Syrian.**

- **October: Seven airstrikes left three fatalities, all Syrians.**
- **November: Seven airstrikes left 14 fatalities: six Syrians and eight non-Syrians.**
- **December: 11 airstrikes left six fatalities, all Syrians.**

“Islamic Resistance” attacks US bases in Syria on nearly 100 occasions

In 2024, Iranian-backed militias escalated their aerial and ground attacks on bases of the US-led Coalition in Syria to an unprecedented level, where the Syrian Observatory was able to document 99 attacks since early 2024 as a part of a series of retaliatory measures against the US forces amid the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip. Those attacks left human and material losses.

Here is a breakdown of those attacks:

- **22 attacks on Al-Omar oil field base.**
- **44 attacks on Koniko gas field base.**
- **Ten attack on Al-Shaddadi base in Al-Hasakah countryside.**
- **12 attacks on the Kharab Al-Jair base in Al-Rumailan.**
- **Ten attacks on Al-Tanf garrison.**
- **One attack on Istrahat Wazir base in Al-Hasakah countryside.**

On January 28, the US Central Command acknowledged of the death of three US soldiers and injury of 25 others in an attack by a drone on Al-Tanf garrison near the border triangle between Syria, Iraq and Jordan.

Israeli attacks reach unprecedented level

Israel continues to violate Syria's sovereignty, citing the large military presence of Iranian forces and their proxy militias as an excuse, as Israel has noticeably escalated its strikes in Syria since early 2018. Despite the fall of Al-Assad's regime and escape of Iranian-backed militias from Syria, Israeli forces continued their attacks, targeting Syria's military assets, including weapons warehouses, ground forces, aircraft and navy vessels.

SOHR documented 373 attacks in 2024: 347 airstrikes and 26 rocket attacks by ground forces, during which Israel targeted several positions in Syria, destroying over 1,032 targets, including buildings, weapons and ammunitions warehouses, headquarters, centres and vehicles. This is the highest annual toll ever of Israeli strikes in Syrian territory.

These strikes killed 414 combatants and injured 277 others. The fatalities are distributed as follows:

- 25 Iranian members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps.**
- 59 members of the Lebanese Hezbollah.**
- 57 Iraqi persons.**
- 162 Iranian-backed Syrian militiamen,.**
- 41 Iranian-backed non-Syrian militiamen.**

- 64 regime soldiers.
- Six unidentified persons.

In addition, those attacks left 68 civilians, including 13 children and 16 women, dead and nearly 85 other civilians injured.

It is worth noting that one of those attacks killed Baraa Al-Qaterji, a prominent businessman close to Iranians, and his cousin.

The attacks are distributed regionally as follows:

- Damascus and Rif Dimashq: 91 attacks.
- Homs: 77 attacks.
- Daraa: 49 attacks.
- Tartus: 30 attacks.
- Deir Ezzor: 27 attacks.
- Al-Quneitra: 26 attacks.
- Latakia: 20 attacks.
- Al-Suwaida: 19 attacks.
- Hama: 17 attacks.
- Aleppo: Seven attacks.
- Al-Hasakah: Six attacks.
- Al-Raqqah: Three attacks.

- **Idlib: One attack.**

SOHR would like to point out that Israel sometimes targeted more than one province in a single attack.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitored key developments related to Iran's presence in Syria in 11 months, from early January to late November 2024, including military movements, recruitments of young and adult men, children and women, repositions and expansion of influence, before the withdrawal of Iranian-backed militias which coincided with the fall of Al-Assad's regime and the escape of Bashar Al-Assad to Russia.

Most of Iranian-backed militiamen, especially non-Syrians, escaped to Iraq and Lebanon. However, the number of sleeping cells remained in Syrian territory is considerable, so Syrians should be careful about expected activities and operations to be carried out by those cells. Also, every one attempting to proceed with any activities serving Iran's agenda and interests must be prosecuted.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), stresses that all Iranian-backed militiamen and commanders involved in killing and displacing Syrian people must be referred to international courts, so that they can face justice.

We, at SOHR, also call upon relevant and all international organisations and authorities to exert diligent efforts to rehabilitate civilians who have been brainwashed by the Iranians for years and become saturated with Shiaa ideology, especially women and children.

Iran's presence in Syria in 2024



SOHR documented the death of **563 Iranian-backed militiamen** in Syrian territory in 2024

188

Non-Syrian militiamen killed in Israeli attacks

164

Syrian militiamen killed in ISIS attacks

73

Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen killed in aerial and ground strikes by International Coalition Forces

44

Militiamen, mostly Syrians, killed by ISIS

40

Syrian militiamen assassinated

22

Syrian militiamen killed by rebels and jihadists

21

Syrian and non-Syrian militiamen killed in clashes with SDF

4

Syrian militiamen killed by explosions

3

Iraqi militiamen assassinated

2

Syrian militiamen working for Lebanese Hezbollah shot dead by Jordanian border guards

2

Syrian militiamen killed by regime forces

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Highest annual toll ever | Israel attacks Syria on 373 occasions in 2024, destroying over 1,000 targets and killing and injuring nearly 845 combatants and civilians

Israel continues to violate Syria's sovereignty, citing the large military presence of Iranian forces and their proxy militias as an excuse, as Israel has noticeably escalated its strikes in Syria since early 2018. Despite the fall of Al-Assad's regime and escape of Iranian-backed militias from Syria, Israeli forces continued their attacks, targeting Syria's military assets, including weapons warehouses, ground forces, aircraft and navy vessels.

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- Hama: 17 attacks.
- Aleppo: Seven attacks.
- Al-Hasakah: Six attacks.
- Al-Raqqah: Three attacks.
- Idlib: One attack.

SOHR would like to point out that Israel sometimes targeted more than one province in a single attack.

Here is a monthly distribution of Israeli attacks and fatalities they left:

- **January: Seven attacks killed 21 combatants and one civilian.**
- **February: 12 attacks killed 17 combatants and eight civilians.**
- **March: Ten attacks killed 77 combatants and one civilian.**
- **April: Six attacks killed 15 combatants and two civilians.**
- **May: Eight attacks killed 19 combatants and one civilian.**
- **June: Five attacks killed 26 combatants and two civilians.**
- **July: Seven attacks killed six combatants.**
- **August: Six attacks killed nine combatants and one civilian.**
- **September: 29 attacks killed 57 combatants and nine civilians.**
- **October: 45 attacks killed 27 combatants and 25 civilians.**
- **November: 24 attacks killed 142 combatants and 16 civilians.**
- **December: 214 attack killed two civilians.**

It is worth noting that this toll includes 210 rounds of airstrikes carried out by Israeli aircraft following the fall of Al-Assad's regime on December 8, 2024, where nearly 500 airstrikes targeted military institutions and assets, destroying over 720 targets. Those rounds of Israeli airstrikes are distributed regionally as follows:

- **Damascus and Rif Dimashq: 39 rounds.**
- **Daraa: 32 rounds.**
- **Tartus: 26 rounds.**
- **Deir Ezzor: 22 rounds.**
- **Latakia: 19 rounds.**
- **Al-Suwaida: 16 rounds.**
- **Hama: 13 rounds.**
- **Homs: 20 rounds.**
- **Al-Quneitra: 11 rounds.**
- **Al-Hasakah: Six rounds.**
- **Aleppo: Three rounds.**
- **Al-Raqqah: Three rounds.**

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights renews its calls upon the international community to defend Syria's sovereignty and exert pressure on Tel Aviv to stop its strikes on Syria and expel Israeli forces which advanced into new Syrian territory following the fall of Al-Assad's regime.

Israeli attacks in Syrian territory in 2024



Casualties in Israeli strikes in Syrian territory in 2024

68

Civilians

13



16



39



416

Combatants

57



Iraqi militiamen

59



Members of the
Lebanese Hezbollah

25



Iranian militiamen of IRGC

41



Iranian-backed
non-Syrian militiamen

6



Unidentified persons

64



Regime soldiers

164



Iranian-backed Syrian
militiamen

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Chart showing the monthly distribution of Israeli attacks and fatalities they left in 2024

Strikes	Month	Combatants	Civilians
7	January	21	1
12	February	17	8
10	March	77	1
6	April	15	2
8	May	19	1
5	June	26	2
7	July	6	-
6	August	9	1
29	September	57	9
45	October	27	25
24	November	142	16
214	December	-	2

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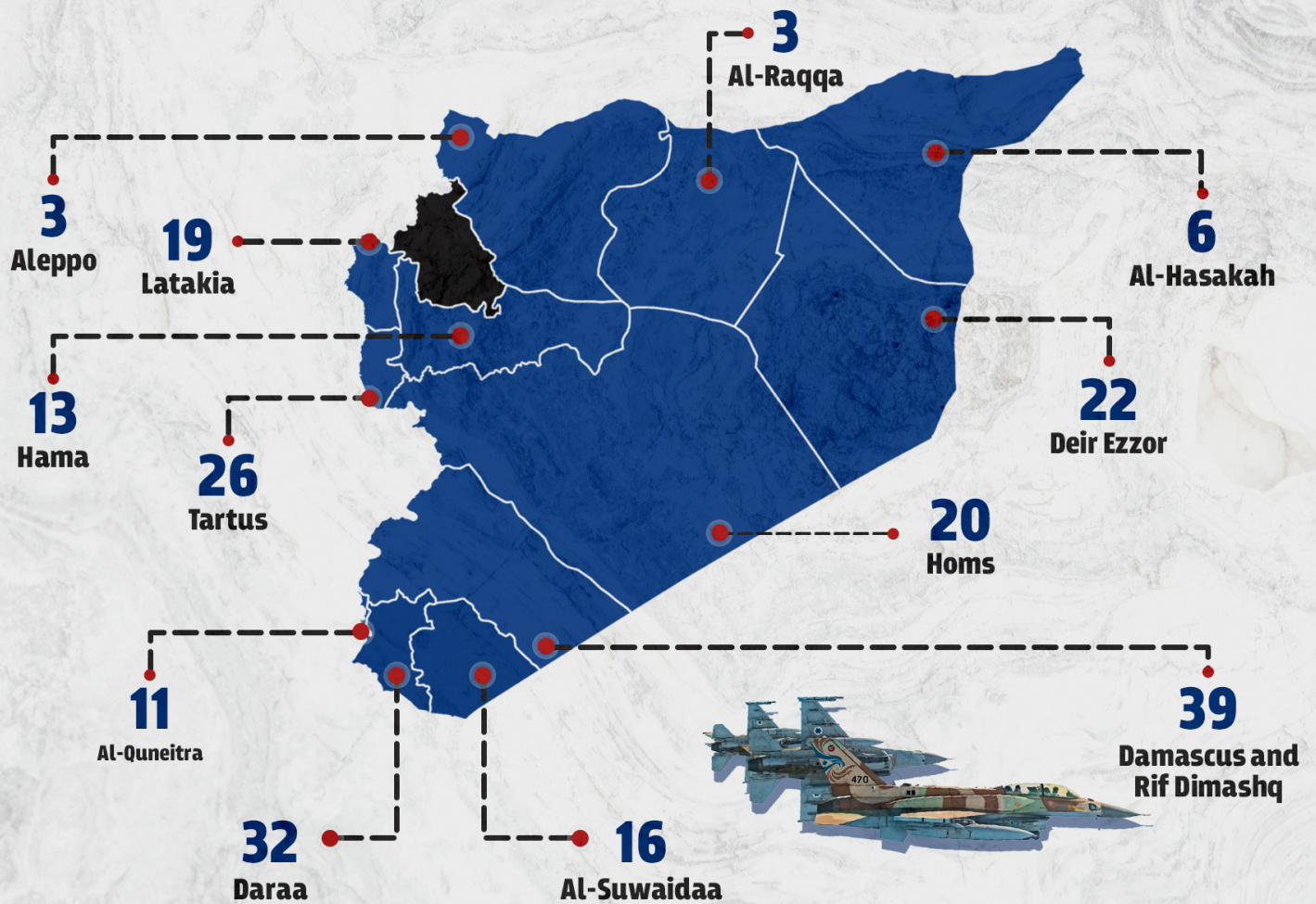


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Regional distribution of Israeli attacks on Syria in 2024



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Over two thirds of whom are children | Explosions of old ordnance in Syria in 2024 kill and injure nearly 550 civilians

SOHR renews its appeal to all relevant international bodies to urgently address the problem and remove old, unexploded ordnance from Syria

War ordnance, such as old landmines and unexploded IEDs, bombs, shells, projectiles, grenades, etc. which are everywhere in Syria, continues to pose a threat to the safety and lives of innocent Syrians. These explosive remnants of war (ERW), which had been planted and left by military formations across the entire Syrian geography for over 14 years, have tragically killed and injured a large number of Syrian people.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has monitored and tracked the issue of explosive remnants of war and documented all the casualties in explosions of old landmines and unexploded ordnance in all zones of influence across Syria in 2024; they are distributed as follows:

- **Deaths: 239 civilians: 69 children, 31 women and 139 young and adult men.**
- **Wounded people: 308 civilians: 161 children, 32 women and 115 young and adult men.**

The fatalities in explosions of old ordnance in Syria in 2024 can be distributed, according to the zones of influence, as follows:

-Before the fall of Al-Assad's regime (during the period from January 1 to December 8):

- **Areas that were under control of the former regime:** 125 fatalities, including 23 women and 35 children, and 127 injured civilians, including 17 women and 46 children. Among this toll, 49 truffle pickers, including a child and 19 women, were killed and 28 others, including nine women, were injured.
- **SDF-controlled areas:** 28 fatalities, including 18 children and three women, and 43 injured civilians, including a woman and 28 children.
- **HTS-held areas:** Eight fatalities, including five children, and 24 injured civilians, including three women and 19 children.
- **Areas where Kurdish and regime forces were deployed:** A man was killed and 15 others, including two women and seven children, were injured.
- **“Euphrates Shield” area:** A civilian was killed and a man and two children were injured.
- **“Olive Branch” area:** Four children were injured.

-After the fall of Al-Assad's regime (during the period from December 8 to December 31): 76 people, including 11 children and five women, were killed and 92 others, including 55 children and six women, were injured in all areas across the entire Syrian geography.

Among the total death toll, the Syrian Observatory documented the death of 102 civilians, including 21 children and 19 women, and the injury of 88 others, including 18 women and 39 children, due to the explosions of landmines planted previously by ISIS, mostly in areas that were under control of the former regime.

Here is a monthly breakdown of casualties:

- **January:** Seven fatalities and 18 injured people.
- **February:** 34 fatalities and 25 injured people.
- **March:** 48 fatalities and 46 injured people.
- **April:** Nine fatalities and 18 injured people.
- **May:** Seven fatalities and 12 injured people.
- **June:** 12 fatalities and nine injured people.
- **July:** Seven fatalities and 21 injured people.
- **August:** Six fatalities and 15 injured people.
- **September:** Eight fatalities and 17 injured people.
- **October:** 11 fatalities and seven injured people.
- **November:** Nine fatalities and 23 injured people.
- **December:** 81 fatalities and 97 injured people.

SOHR renews its call on all international organisations to work on removing unexploded war ordnance across Syrian immediately and to address the problem appropriately, especially since all warring parties throughout Syria continue to plant IEDs and landmines. SOHR also calls upon international organisations to adopt a strategy to raise the residents' awareness about the threats of old ordnance which may have been planted in abandoned buildings as well.

S O H R

Explosions of old ordnance in 2024



Explosions of old ordnance killed and injured **547** civilians in 2024

308

Injured people



239

Fatalities

161



69

32



31

115



139



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Syrian Observatory For Human Rights

2024 | SOHR documents nearly 3,600 forcible/arbitrary arrests and kidnappings across Syria

As arbitrary arrests and kidnappings continued in 2024, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) monitored and tracked kidnappings and arrests across Syria in the past year. In 2024, SOHR documented the forcible/arbitrary arrest of 3,121 people, including 56 women and 26 children, and the kidnapping of 442 people, including 14 women and 27 children.

In this report, SOHR highlight detailed information on the cause of arbitrary arrests and kidnaps in all zones of influence throughout Syria in 2024:

Arrests

SOHR activists have documented the arbitrary arrest of over 3,121 people in 2024 in all zones of influence across Syria, including 56 women and 26 children; they are distributed regionally as follows:

–Areas that were under the control of the deposed regime

1,422 people, including six children and 13 women, were arrested on different charges, the most prominent of which are “evading the mandatory and reserve conscription in the regime army,” “communicating with foreign bodies,” and “involving in cybercrimes.” The people arrested arbitrarily in regime-controlled areas in 2024 are distributed regionally as follows:

- Rif Dimashq: 278 people, including two children and three women.**
- Deir Ezzor: 276 people, including three women.**

- Daraa: 252 people, including three children and three women.
- Homs: 182 people, including a child.
- Aleppo: 151 people, including a woman.
- Hama: 94 people.
- Damascus: 97 people, including a woman.
- Latakia: 42 people.
- Tartus: 21 people.
- Al-Suwaidaa: 15 people, including two women.
- Al-Raqqah: 14 people.

–Areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration

705 people, including a child and four women, were arrested on different charges.

–Areas under the control of Ankara-backed factions

863 people, including 39 women and 19 children, were arrested on different charges, the most prominent of which were “communication with the Kurdish forces, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), the Autonomous Administration and ISIS cells.” Here is a regional breakdown of these arrests:

- “Olive Branch” area: 466 people, including 14 children and 20 women.

- “Peace Spring” area: 290 people, including five children and 15 women.
- “Euphrates Shield” area: 107 people, including four women.

–Areas under the control of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham in Idlib and surrounding villages

131 people.

Kidnaps

Beside arbitrary arrests, all zones of influence across Syria experienced scores of kidnaps by unidentified individuals in 2024, with the aim of collecting ransoms in light of the escalating security chaos in all Syrian provinces. According to SOHR statistics, 442 people, including 14 women and 27 children, were kidnapped in the past year; they are distributed regionally as follows:

–Areas that were under the control of the deposed regime:

266 people, including six women and ten children. The people kidnapped in regime-controlled areas in 2024 are distributed regionally as follows:

- Daraa: 102 people, including three children and five women.
- Homs: 109 people, including four children and a woman.
- Al-Suwaida: 40 people, including a child.
- Deir Ezzor: Five people, including a little girl.

- **Rif Dimashq: Four persons**
- **Damascus: Two persons.**
- **Aleppo: Two persons.**
- **Latakia: One person.**
- **Tartus: A little girl**

–Areas under the control of the Autonomous Administration: 34 people, including a woman and 11 children.

–Areas under control of Ankara-backed factions: 88 people, including seven women and six children, were kidnapped by gunmen, some of whom working for factions of the “National Army”; they are as follows:

- **“Olive Branch” area: 23 people, including three women and two children.**
- **“Peace Spring” area: 33 people, including four women and three children.**
- **“Euphrates Shield” area: 32 people, including a child.**

–Areas under the control of Hayyaat Tahrir Al-Sham in Idlib and surrounding villages: Three persons.

-Areas under the control of the caretaker government: 51 people.

Here is a monthly breakdown of arbitrary arrests and kidnaps across Syria in 2024:

- **January: 94 arrests and 13 kidnaps.**
- **February: 151 arrests and 32 kidnaps.**
- **March: 186 arrests and 25 kidnaps.**
- **April: 214 arrests and 45 kidnaps.**
- **May: 159 arrests and 31 kidnaps.**
- **June: 332 arrests and 42 kidnaps.**
- **July: 271 arrests and 27 kidnaps.**
- **August: 242 arrests and 34 kidnaps.**
- **September: 301 arrests and 45 kidnaps.**
- **October: 409 arrests and 49 kidnaps.**
- **November: 469 arrests and 42 kidnaps.**
- **December: 293 arrests and 56 kidnaps.**

SOHR has verified the cases of arrests and kidnaps mentioned in this report and documented most of the names. SOHR also confidently estimates that the total number of kidnapped people is much higher. However, some victims' families preferred to keep the identities of their sons secret, fearing persecution and punishment by the bodies that had arrested and kidnapped them.

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), renew congratulations to the detainees who have been freed from prisons of the former regime, after having been defeated by “Deterrence of Aggression” operation forces, and mourn the victims whose death has been confirmed in regime prisons.

We also look forward to disclosing the fate of tens of thousands of missing and forcibly disappeared individuals, especially since many mass graves have been found.

S O H R

SOHR documents nearly 3,600 forcible/arbitrary arrests and kidnappings across Syria in 2024



SOHR documented the forcibly/arbitrary arrest of **3,121** people across Syria in 2024



HTS-controlled areas in Idlib city and surrounding villages

131



-



-



131



Areas controlled by Turkish-backed factions

863



19



39



805



SDF-controlled areas

705



1



4



700



Areas that were under control of the deposed regime

1,422



6



13



1,403

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SOHR documented the kidnapping of **442** people across Syria in 2024



Areas under the control of
the caretaker government

51



HTS-controlled areas in Idlib
city and surrounding villages

3



Areas controlled by
Turkish-backed factions

88



SDF-controlled areas

34



Areas that were under control
of the deposed regime

266



-

-

6

11

10



-

-

7

1

6



51

3

75

22

250

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Conclusion

We, at the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, promise Syrian people who have sacrificed everything to reach freedom and democracy, that we will continue to document every human rights violations against Syrian people whatever it costs and exert every possible effort serving stability in Syria.

In a previous interview on TV, the director of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, Rami Abdulrahman, stated “we not only document violations, but also attempt to address violations. We also publish those violations in order to warn the leadership in Damascus.” We participate in this task with all segments of Syrian society that play out in favour of a united and safe Syria.

We stress that the precious cost that Syrian people have paid to liberate their homeland will not be in vain, and we seek to reconstruct a free and democratic nation that Syrians deserve, after having endured humiliation, repression, starvation, torture and displacement for decades.

SOHR believes that concreted efforts by all Syrians can lead to stability and expulsion of all occupying powers, as well as putting an end to conflicts.

The Syrian Observatory calls upon Syrian people and the caretaker government to leave yesterday's hatred behind and proceed with constructing a new Syria which was reborn a month ago with the fall of the dictatorship and escape of Bashar Al-Assad.



Syrian Observatory for Human Rights

المركز السوري لحقوق الإنسان



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