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Country/ entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Memorandum on the Creation of De-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic
Date	4 May 2017
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) (Syrian Conflicts (1948 -) (1976 - 2005) (2011 -))
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Syrian peace process
Parties	Islamic Republic of Iran; Russian Federation; Republic of Turkey;
Third parties	-
Description	Agreement provides for de-escalation zones in parts of Idlib, Hms, Ghouta and Deraa and al-Quneitra to last for an initial 6 months. The escalation zones shall provide for humanitarian access, basic infrastructure restoral and refugee return.Zones will include checkpoints and observation posts.

Agreement document [SY_170504_Memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas.pdf](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/
youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical 2. Within the lines of the de-escalation areas: ... —conditions for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons shall be created.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
Men and boys	No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) Page 1, reaffirming their strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic;

State configuration Page 1, reaffirming their strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic;

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance
Page 1, 2. Within the lines of the de-escalation areas:
—rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access shall be provided;
—conditions to deliver medical aid to local population and to meet basic needs of civilians shall be created;

Page 2, 4. The security zones shall include:
- Checkpoints to ensure unhindered movement of unarmed civilians and delivery of humanitarian assistance as well as to facilitate economic activities;

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction
Page 2, 2. Within the lines of the de-escalation areas:
... —measures to restore basic infrastructure facilities, starting with water supply and electricity distribution networks, shall be taken;

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/
rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/
nomadism
rights No specific mention.

Cultural
heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or
riparian
rights or
access Page 2, 2. Within the lines of the de-escalation areas:
... —measures to restore basic infrastructure facilities, starting with water
supply and electricity distribution networks, shall be taken;

Security sector

Security
Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire	<p>Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision</p> <p>Page 1, 1.the following de-escalation areas shall be created with the aim to put a prompt end to violence, improve the humanitarian situation and create favorable conditions to advance political settlement of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Idlib province and certain parts of the neighbouring provinces (Latakia, Hama and Aleppo provinces); —certain parts in the north of Homs province; —in eastern Ghouta; —certain parts of southern Syria (Deraa and Al-Quneitra provinces). <p>The creation of the de-escalation areas and security zones is a temporary measure, the duration of which will initially be 6 months and will be automatically extended on the basis of consensus of the Guarantors.</p> <p>Page 1-2, 2. Within the lines of the de-escalation areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —hostilities between the conflicting parties (the government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the armed opposition groups that have joined and will join the ceasefire regime) with the use of any kinds of weapons, including aerial assets, shall be ceased; —rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access shall be provided; —conditions to deliver medical aid to local population and to meet basic needs of civilians shall be created; —measures to restore basic infrastructure facilities, starting with water supply and electricity distribution networks, shall be taken; —conditions for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons shall be created. <p>Page 2, 3. Along the lines of the de-escalation areas, security zones shall be established in order to prevent incidents and military confrontations between the conflicting parties.</p> <p>Page 2, 4. The security zones shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checkpoints to ensure unhindered movement of unarmed civilians and delivery of humanitarian assistance as well as to facilitate economic activities; - Observation posts to ensure compliance with the provisions of the ceasefire regime. <p>The functioning of the checkpoints and observation posts as well as the administration of the security zones shall be ensured by the forces of the Guarantors by consensus. Third parties might be deployed, if necessary, by consensus of the Guarantors.</p> <p>Page 3, The present Memorandum enters into force the next day after its signing.</p>
Police	No specific mention.

Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/ organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	Page 2, 5. The Guarantors shall: ... —take all necessary measures to continue the fight against DAESH/ISIL, Nusra Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaeda or DAESH/ISIL as designated by the UN Security Council within and outside the de-escalation areas;

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
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Amnesty/ pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	Islamic Republic of Iran; Russian Federation; Republic of Turkey;
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.

International mission/
force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Page 1, 5. The Guarantors shall:
—take all necessary measures to ensure the fulfillment by the conflicting parties of the ceasefire regime;
—take all necessary measures to continue the fight against DAESH/ISIL, Nusra Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaeda or DAESH/ISIL as designated by the UN Security Council within and outside the de-escalation areas;
—continue efforts to include in the ceasefire regime armed opposition groups that have not yet joined the ceasefire regime.

Page 2, 6. The Guarantors shall in 2 weeks after signing the Memorandum form a Joint working group on de- escalation (hereinafter referred to as the “Joint Working Group”) composed of their authorized representatives in order to delineate the lines of the de-escalation areas and security zones as well as to resolve other operational and technical issues related to the implementation of the Memorandum.

The Guarantors shall take steps to complete by 4 June 2017 the preparation of the maps of the de- escalation areas and security zones and to separate the armed opposition groups from the terrorist groups mentioned in para.5 of the Memorandum.

Page 3, The Joint Working Group shall prepare by the above-mentioned date the maps of the de-escalation areas and security zones to be agreed by consensus of the Guarantors as well as the draft Regulation of the Joint Working Group.

The Joint Working Group shall report on its activities to the high-level international meetings on Syria held in Astana.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russia http://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/2746041
