

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and Free Idlib Army on the issue of Col. Ali Al Samahi
Date	6 Apr 2017
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local conflict

Syrian Conflicts (1948 -) (1976 - 2005) (2011 -)

The agreements relate to three different conflict contexts. Israel-Syria and Syria-Lebanon. The Syrian-Israeli conflict was a key factor for the Syrian intervention during the Lebanese Civil War, with Syrian-backed Palestinian Liberation Army units intervened in 1976 against the Palestinian/Leftist militias. Following a massacre at Tel al-Zaatar that year, Syria was forced to accept a ceasefire at a meeting of the Arab League. However, the Arab League also mandated an Arab Deterrence Force, consisting of mostly Syrian soldiers with token contributions from other Arab League states, thus further legitimizing the Syrian presence in Lebanon. During a second bout of fighting that began in 1989, caused by the formation of rival Lebanese regimes in East and West Beirut, the Syrian-backed regime won and in 1991 the 'Treaty of Brotherhood, Cooperation and Coordination' was signed to legalize the Syrian occupation as a means to ensure the security of Syria. Syrian forces were forced to withdraw in 2005 following possible involvement in the assassination of Lebanon's President Hariri.

Syria-internal. In 2011, domestic upheaval following a wave of protests across the Arab World soon led to violent repression of protestors by Syrian government troops. The violence progressed steadily and by July 2011 the Free Syrian Army (FSA) was formed consisting of defected military units and new recruits. The FSA and rebel umbrella group known as the Syrian National Council represented the first attempt at coordinating rebel factions in late 2011. However, a steady influx of foreign fighters and increased sectarianism radicalised opposition groups, which relied on foreign funding. The nature of the conflict changed drastically in late 2013 as infighting among the opposition groups increased. One of the more significant developments was the split between the al-Qaeda outfits the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, ISIS), and Jabhat al-Nusra in early 2014 in addition to the intensified targeting of other rebel factions by ISIS fighters in particular, including the Kurdish Peshmerga, the FSA and other jihadist outfits. Since the summer of 2014, the conflict was further internationalized when ISIS announced the formation of an Islamic state eroding the state line between Iraq and Syria and also in mid-2015 when Russian forces intervened on behalf of the Bashar al-Assad government in Damascus.

Close
Syrian Conflicts (1948 -) (1976 - 2005) (2011 -)

Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	Col. Tayseer al-Samahi for the Free Idlib Army [Signed] Abu al-Saad al-Suri for Hayat Tahrir al-Sham [Signed]

Third parties

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Description

Agreement to form a sharia court and adjudicate on the killing of Col. Ali al-Samahi at the Khan al-Subul checkpoint. Also agrees to release detainees; handover of seized belongings, vehicles, etc. by both sides. Parties further agree to remove checkpoints and other 'manifestations' of tension and hand over wanted members from their groups.

Agreement document

[SY_170405_HTS and FSA agreement on al-Samahi, Idlib _EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language)

[SY_170406_HTS and FSA agreement on al-Samahi, Idlib _AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

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**

No specific mention.

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) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

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 Page 1, 1. Forming a Shariah court made up of Dr. Madhhar Al Wais, Sheikh Ahmad Alwan Ali, and the two parties shall agree on an independent reference in the case of a dispute within a period of at most a week from this date

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws Page 1, 1. Forming a Shariah court made up of Dr. Madhhar Al Wais, Sheikh Ahmad Alwan Ali, and the two parties shall agree on an independent reference in the case of a dispute within a period of at most a week from this date

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees Page 1, 4. Removing checkpoints and stopping all of the manifestations of tensions by both sides.

Page 1, 5. Both sides shall commit to handing over all wanted members from their groups for investigation

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, 4. Removing checkpoints and stopping all of the manifestations of tensions by both sides Page 1, 5. Both sides shall commit to handing over all wanted members from their groups for investigation
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	Page 1, 2. Releasing the detainees being held by both sides
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.

Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations Page 1, 3. Handing over all of the person property, weapons, and vehicles taken by both sides to their owners
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 1, 1. Forming a Shariah court made up of Dr. Madhhar Al Wais, Sheikh Ahmad Alwan Ali, and the two parties shall agree on an independent reference in the case of a dispute within a period of at most a week from this date. Page 1, 6. Both parties shall implement and accept the final ruling of the court
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	Souria.net, 'Agreement between the Free Idlib Army and Tahrir al-Sham after the killing of al-Samahi ... these are the points', 6 April 2017, https://web.archive.org/save/https://www.alsouria.net/content/الحر-دلب-إل-جيش-بين-تفاق-بين-جيش-إدلب-الحر - بعد-مقتل-السماحي-اتفاق-بين-جيش-إدلب-الحر-وهيئة-تحرير-الشام-هذه-بنوده
