

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between Syrian Defence Forces (SDF) and the Islamic State (IS)
Date	27 Nov 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 -)

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Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	Islamic State (IS, ISIS); Syrian Defence Forces (SDF)
Third parties	-
Description	Three part agreement with sections providing for military, political and economic issues.

Agreement document [SY_171127_ISIS Ceasefire_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_171127_ISIS Ceasefire_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	Power sharing→Military power sharing→Joint command structures Page 1, A. Military: 8. Both parties will establish a military coordination room and install a hotline between them.

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	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media logistics Page 1, A. Military: 8. Both parties will establish a military coordination room and install a hotline between them. Page 1, A. Military: 9. Establishing communications will solve accidental or erroneous firing and the responsible party will provide a reason as well as immediately resolve the matter.
Mobility/access	Page 2, C. Economic: 1. Trade crossings to the Islamic State magistrate will open and neither side will block movement of goods. Page 2, C. Economic: 3. Syrian Defence Forces will provide safety to Islamic State fighters leaving their territories for the purpose of medical treatment
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 No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources Page 2, C. Economic:
2. Remaining oil wells under the authority of the Islamic State will remain under their authority.

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, A. Military:
4. The soldiers of the Islamic state [must not] be subjected to attack whilst carrying out military actions against parties outside of this agreement.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, A. Military:
1. An immediate cessation of all fighting between the two parties until the end date of negotiations.

Page 1, A. Military:
2. The duration of the truce is a month with possibility for extension, beginning on 20/11/2017 and ending 28/12/2017.

Page 1, A. Military:
3. The two parties will determine safe geographical boundaries [a demarcation line].

Page 1, A. Military:
3. The two parties will determine safe geographical boundaries [a demarcation line].

Page 1, A. Military:
5. All military actions against the Islamic State [by the Syrian Defence Force] will cease including airstrikes and artillery.

Page 1, A. Military:
6. The Islamic State is committed to ending military action against the other party in the agreement.

Page 1, A. Military:
7. The Islamic State is committed to ending security actions [...] during the agreement [period] in the direct conflict area in Barka province [Hassakeh].

Page 1, A. Military:
10. Military coordinators from both sides will report any movement on the front lines and their destination, as well as their purpose and proximity to either party, to ensure stability.

Page 2, The truce will end on the agreed date or when a party annuls the terms of the truce. The Islamic State does not breach covenants and works to fulfil the obligations and is not responsible for any individual behaviour of its members or loyalists other than its soldiers.

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Page 1, A. Military: 4. The soldiers of the Islamic state [must not] be subjected to attack whilst carrying out military actions against parties outside of this agreement.</p> <p>Page 1, B. Political: 4. Non-exposure of the arrivals to the territory of the Islamic state from Jaysh al-Muhajirin wal-Ansar.</p>
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	[Summary] Islamic State is party to the agreement.

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, B. Political:
1. Islamic State soldiers captured before this agreement by the Syrian Defence Force will not be handed over to any party beyond this agreement and negotiations will remain between agreement parties.

Page 1, Political:
2. Working on the issue of prisoners with the competent authorities of both parties.

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 No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/ similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism Page 1, B. Political:
5. Any breach [of the agreement] by any party will be registered and referred to the competent authority.

Page 1, B. Political:
6. Existing problems will be solved directly between the parties.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source Terror Events, Twitter Account, 27 November 2017, <https://twitter.com/TerrorEvents/status/935276430837080066>