

Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>

Country/ entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the Syrian Liberation Front to de-escalate military presence in the towns of Hama and Idlib provinces
Date	28 Feb 2018
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict (Syrian Conflicts (1948 -) (1976 - 2005) (2011 -))
Stage	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	From Hay ' at Tahrīr al-Shām Abu Mahood Khatab [signature] From Jabhat Tahrīr Suria Abu al-Yaman Turk [signature]
Third parties	Guarantor Major Jamil al-Salih [signature]
Description	Five-point agreement providing for the neutralization of fighting between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Jabhat Tahrir Suriyya. It is restricted to those engaged in fighting and provides that Hayat Tahrir al-Sham cannot open HQs in the mentioned areas or interfere in the affairs of the city. In return, Jabhat Tahrir Suriyya will not attack HTS HQ from factions that have stayed away from fighting.

Agreement document [SY_180228_Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the Syrian Liberation Front to de-escalate military presence in the towns of Hama and Idlib provinces.pdf](#) | Download PDF

Agreement document (original language) [SY_180228_Agreement between Tahrir al-Sham and the Syrian Liberation Front to de-escalate military presence in the towns of Hama and Idlib provinces.pdf](#) | Download PDF

Local agreement properties

Process type Informal but persistent process

Rationale -> Local issues only; no external support mechanism; culture of signing No formally established mechanism supported the negotiation between the signing parties. Moreover, this agreement cannot be linked to the national peace process. Indeed, both groups have a Salafist ideology; they oppose the rule of Bashar al-Assad in Syria and reject the idea of a national negotiation to solve the conflict. Yet, it seems that both signing parties (especially Hayat Tahrir al-Sham) choose to solve daily pragmatic issues related to their armed struggle through agreements. Although one cannot speak of a “culture” of signing peace agreements, the parties are involved (in a non-proactive and non-conscious way) in a persistent practice of signing local agreements. The agreement is related to multiple local level processes in Idlib and Hama governorates in early 2018. A very similar agreement was signed between the two same parties the day before in nearby Sheikh Mustafa.

Is there a documented link to a national peace process?

No

Link to national process: articulated rationale

No link to the national peace process in Syria is mentioned in the agreement, neither it can be inferred from further research. First, the agreement does not involve local governance actors; and the signing parties themselves are not official state representative. Second, all parties to the agreement reject the national peace process, as it would maintain Bashar al-Assad and the Syrian government in power. Finally, the agreement should be understood in the context of an “intra-religious insurgent groups” conflict where several factions that all oppose Bashar al-Assad engaged in fighting and took some distance from their initial raison d’être in the context of the Syrian civil war.

Name of Locale

Sheikh Mustafa, Kafr Sijnah, Al-Rakaya, Madaaya, Al-Amariah, Muwaqah, Kifrin, Haysh, Tathaya, Khan Sheikhoun, Mork, Kafrzita, and Al-Tamanah

Nature Of Locale

Region

GPS Lat/Long (DD)

35.449763, 36.588550

Participant type

Local armed group

Mediator, facilitator or similar

Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references)

The agreement was signed with the guarantee of a military leader affiliated with the Free Syrian Army.

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar

Local armed group

Local issues

Ritual/ prayer and process (including use of scripture)	Page 1, In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful
Grievance List	The agreement addresses the consequences and grievances that arose from a series of clashes between the signing parties in Hama and Idlib governorates.
Cattle rustling/ banditry	No specific mention.
Social cover	No specific mention.
