

The Comparative Metrics of ISIS and “Failed State Wars” in Syria and Iraq

Part Three: Stability and Conflict in Syria

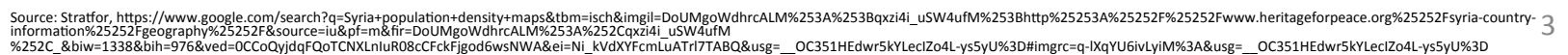
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**Working Draft
Updated March
23, 2016**

U.S. Army Photo by Pvt.
Travis J. Terreo

Conflict Dynamics in Syria

POPULATION DENSITY IN THE GREATER LEVANTINE

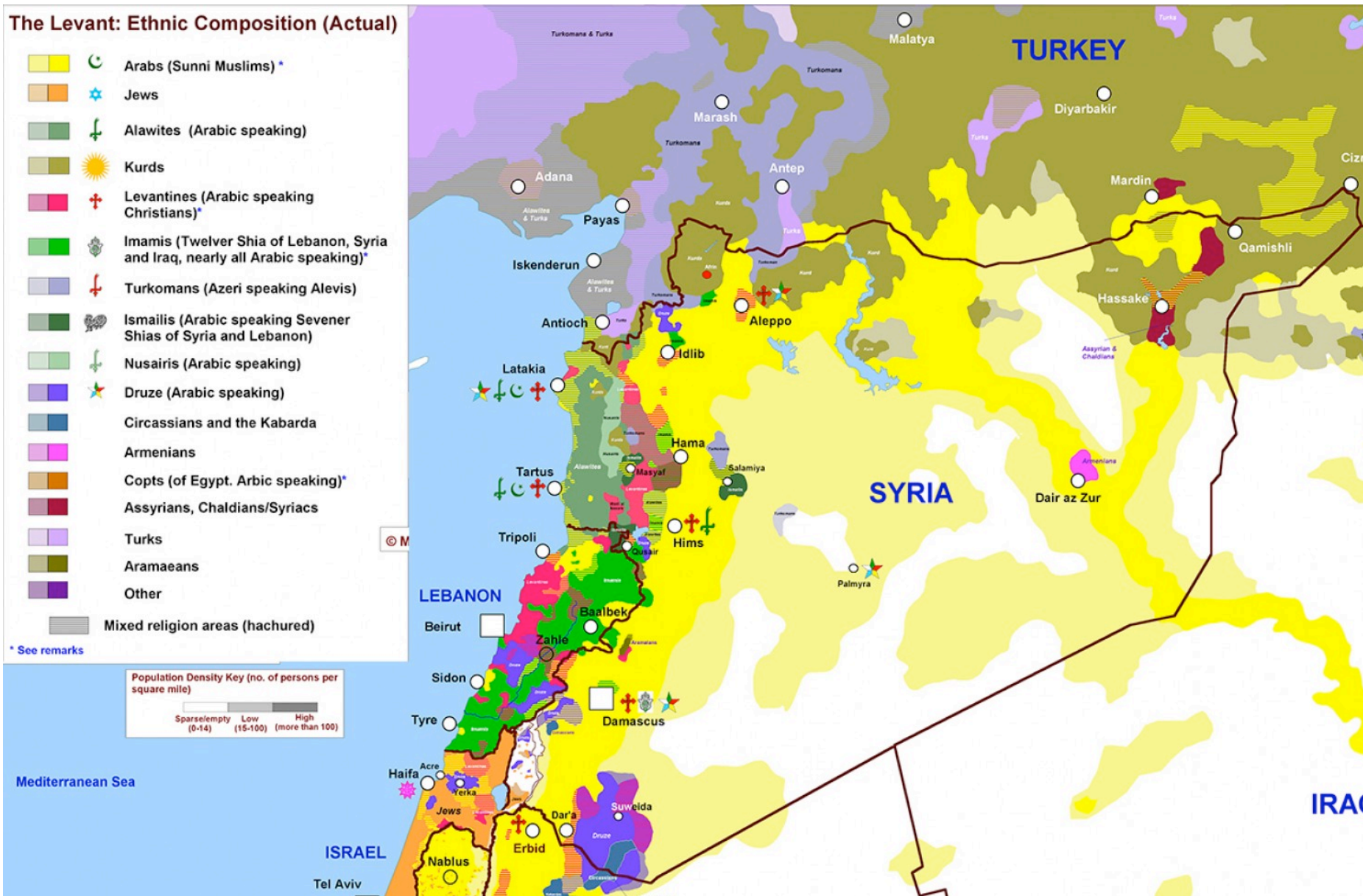
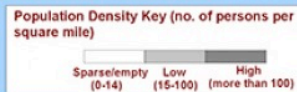


The Pre-War Ethnic Sectarian Nightmare in the Levant

The Levant: Ethnic Composition (Actual)

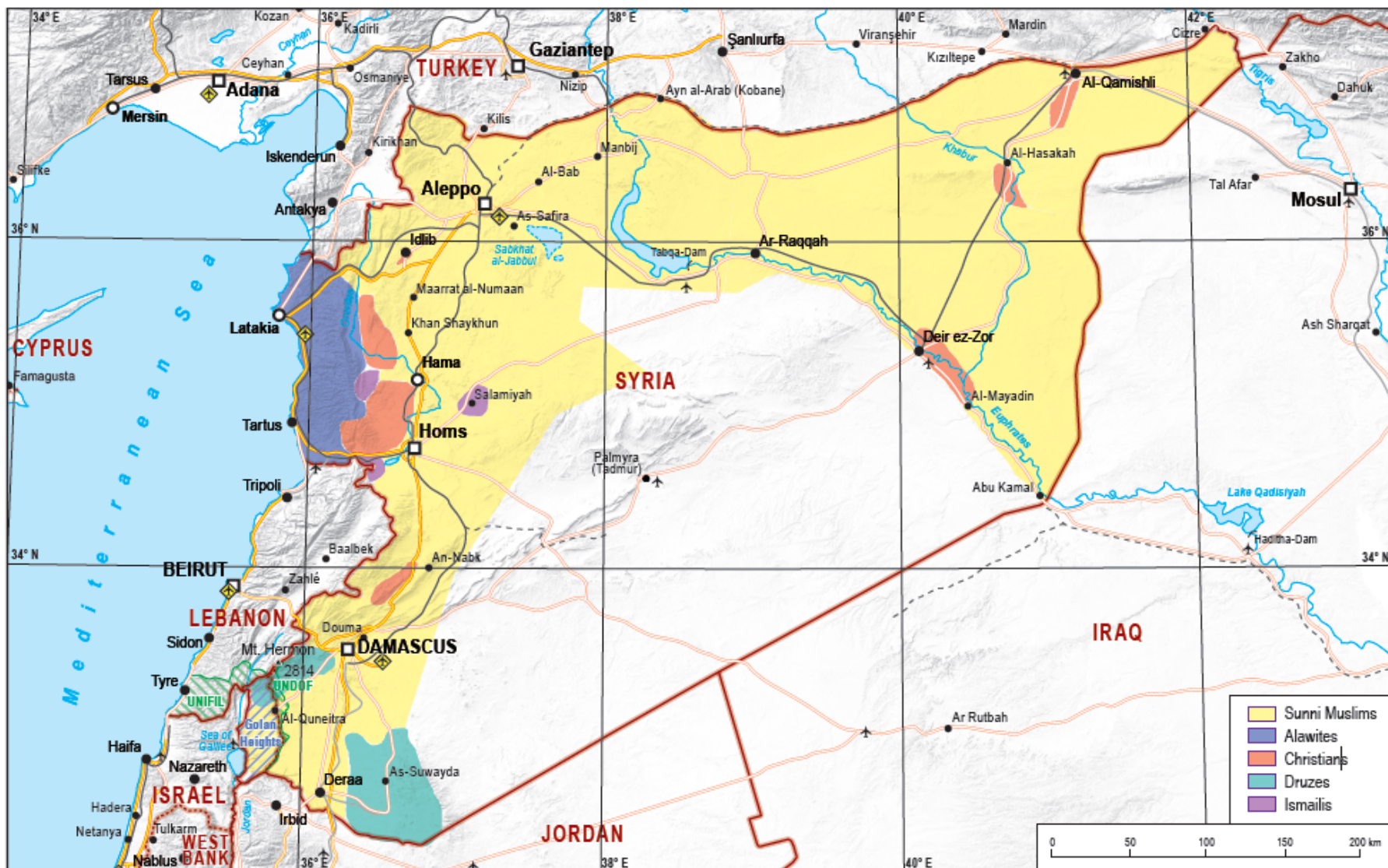


* See remarks



Source: Columbia University [Gulf/2000 Project](http://www.gulf2000project.org/), and <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/08/27/the-one-map-that-shows-why-syria-is-so-complicated/>

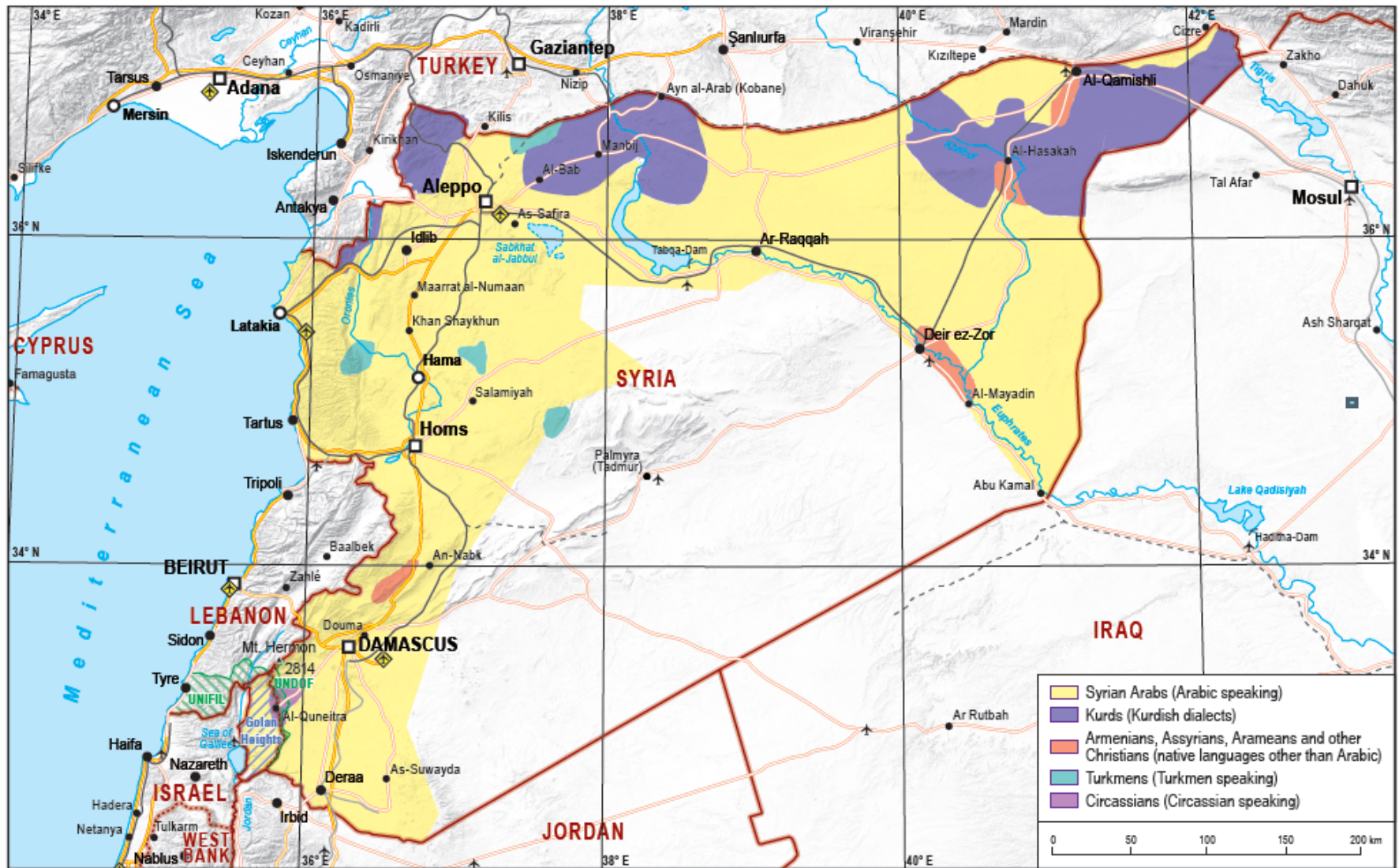
Syria: Religious and Ethnic Groups: March 2011



Source: www.ecoi.net/atlas_syria_sources.pdf

This map shows only the main areas of settlement of religious and sectarian groups. The Syrian population is very heterogeneous in terms of religious and sectarian affiliation, especially in urban centers.

Syria: Ethnic and Linguistic Groups: March 2011



Source: www.ecoi.net/atlas_syria_sources.pdf

This map shows only the main areas of settlement of ethnic and linguistic groups. The Syrian population is very heterogeneous in terms of ethnic and linguistic affiliation, especially in urban centers.

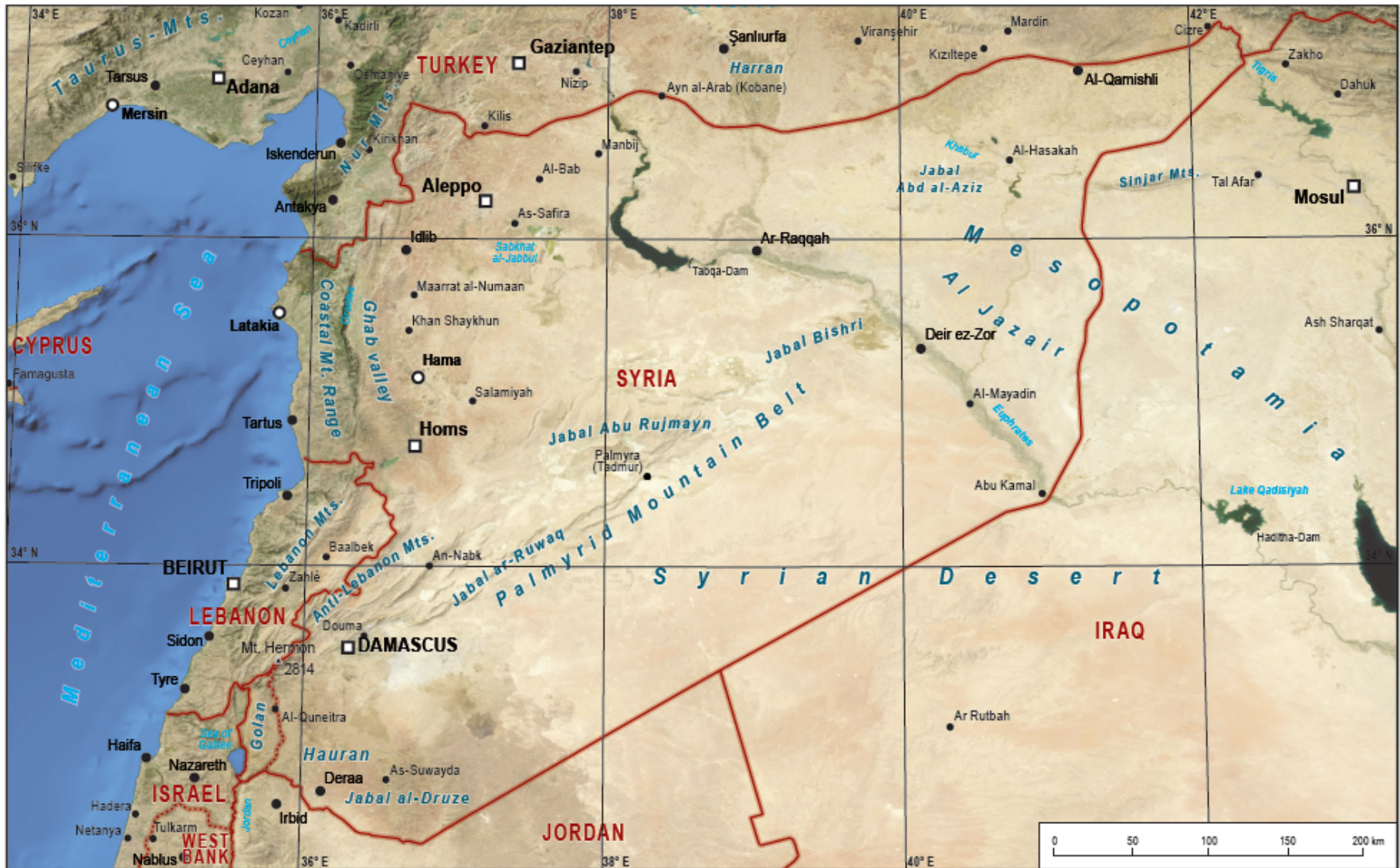
Syria: Topography and Regional Divisions



Source: Collins World Explorer Premium, Shuttle Radar Topography Mission

Source: Atlas-Syria: Federal Ministry of the interior, Republic of Austria, 2015, http://www.ecoi.net/atlas_syria.pdf, p. 8

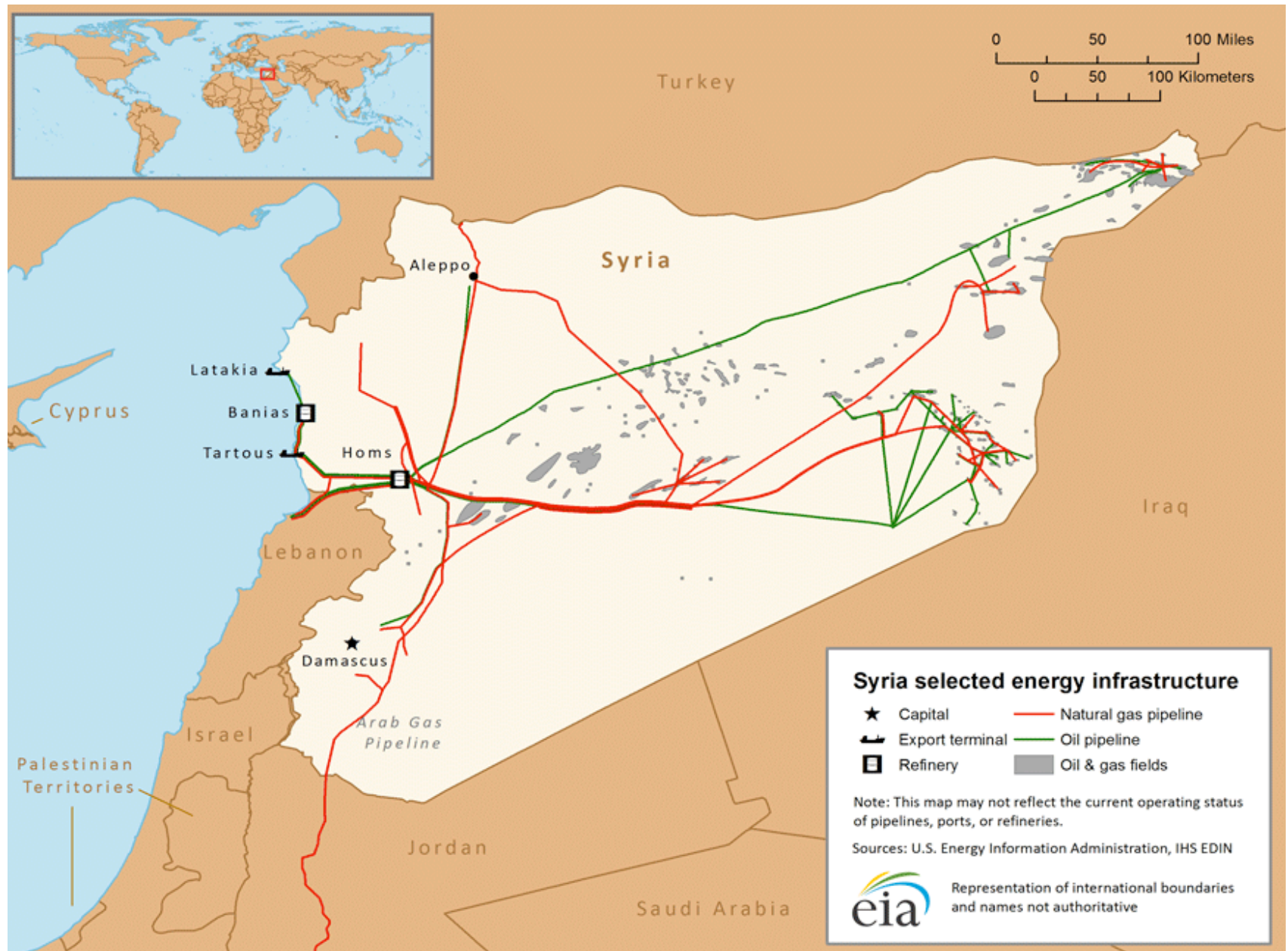
Syria: Physiography



Source: NASA Blue Marble Next Generation, Shuttle Radar Topography Mission

Source: Atlas-Syria: Federal Ministry of the interior, Republic of Austria, 2015, http://www.ecoi.net/atlas_syria.pdf, p. 9

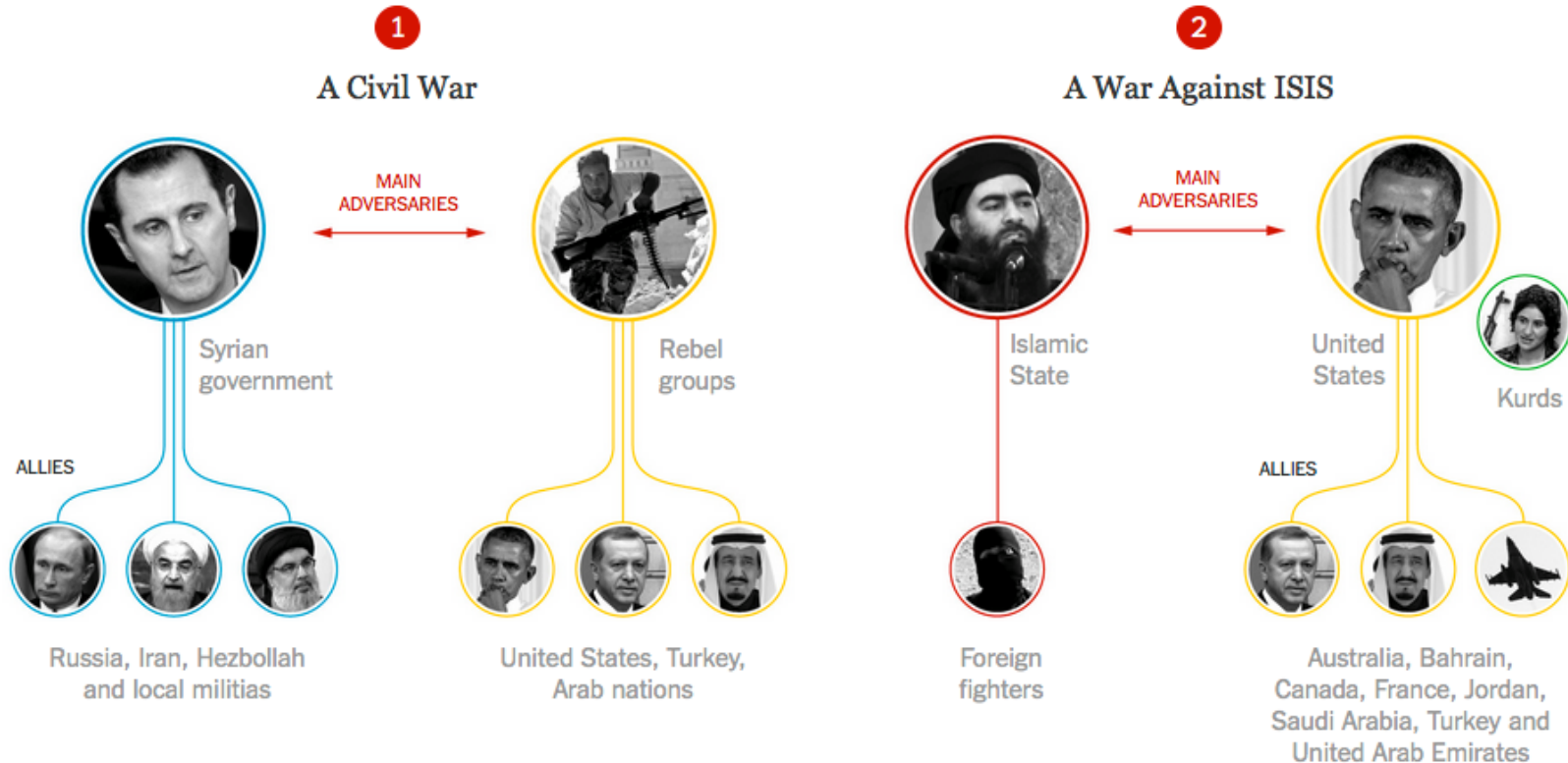
Energy Vulnerability in Syria



Damascus: Satellite Image



Multiple Wars in Syria



Interactive Conflicts and Tensions:

Conflict in Iraq, US and Arab Gulf vs. Iran, Kurds vs. Turkey, US vs. Russia, Refugee crisis in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq; Hezbollah vs. Other factions in Lebanon, Syrian Border with Israel

Key Elements of Syria's Four Main Fighting Factions

1. ISIS:

Claim 200,000. Probably 44,000-60,000 core fighters with some 30,000 volunteers. Mostly captured Syrian and Iraqi weapons supplied by U.S. and Russia. Some armor, modern ATGMs and MANPADS.

2. Assad and Allied Forces:

Remnants of Syrian armed forces – Cut from 300,000 in Army to some 125,000-176,000, major active land and air weapons strength unclear but may retain up to 3,000 tanks, 2,500 field artillery pieces, 500 MLRS, 1,000 mortars and some 2,000 ground fire-capable anti-aircraft guns. Active fixed wing air strength may be down to 200-215, rotary wing unknown, but more than 30 attack helicopters.

Russian fighters: Attack helicopters, SAMs (SA-22, MRLs (?), and advisors at forward combat unit level.

Also **Alawite Militias**; **National Defense Forces** paramilitary units with 30,000-60,000 partly trained fighters; at least 6 military groups; **Hezbollah forces**; 6,000-7,000 **Iranian “volunteers and IRGC forces**.

3. Kurdish Forces:

Include **Kurdish People's Protection Units** (YPG) (claim 65,000), Jabhat al-Akrad (7,000) Kurdistan Workers' Party; and Islamist elements. No reliable estimates, but

some 20,000-35,000 possible. Largely U.S. supplied arms and small arms. Some Special Forces trainers.

4. Rebel and Independent Forces:

Many small armed groups, increasingly Islamist and non-secular. 25,000-35,000 full and part time fighters. No central command and differ by area. Main groups are:

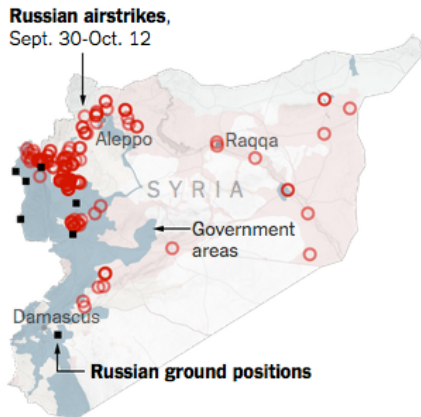
Aleppo Province: More moderate Fatah Halab Operations Room excludes hard-line groups. Ansar al-Shariah Operations Room, formed as a response to Fatah Halab, works with Al Nusra Front, an affiliate of Al Qaeda.

Central Syria around Idlib, Latakia and Hama: The largest group is **Army of Conquest** or Jaish al-Fatah, an alliance of Islamist factions, including the Nusra Front which is an Al Qaeda's affiliate/Ahrar al-Sham is another large group. Also are more moderate rebel factions, some of which have received covert arms support from CIA, Arab Gulf states, others.

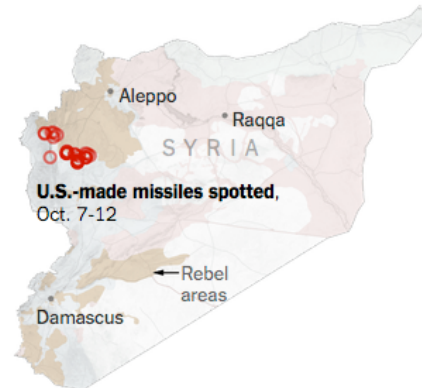
Damascus Region: Army of Islam, a group with financial backing from Saudi Arabia, has declared war on Russia. It is one of several armed groups that form the East Gouta Council.

Southeast: Southern Front coalition of small armed groups like the New Syrian Force that have U.S. aid and support a secular government.

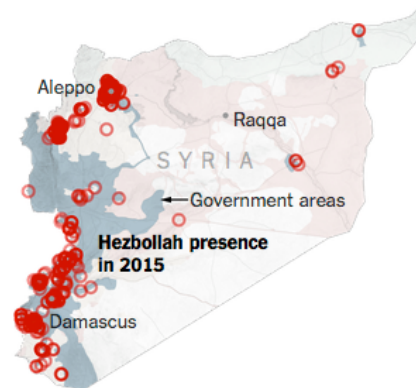
Key Factional Fighting in 2015



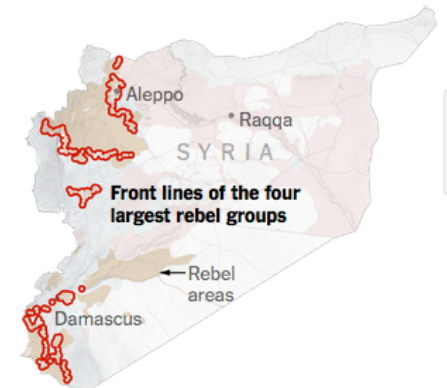
Russia has bases and advisers in several government-controlled locations. It has mainly targeted rebels in areas where the government had been losing ground.



Rebels in areas targeted by Russian airstrikes have used antitank missiles made in the **United States**.



Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps and **Hezbollah** have been advising and shoring up pro-Assad forces since 2012.



Most rebel groups supported by the **United States, Saudi Arabia, Qatar** and **Turkey** are in western Syria.

Sources: IHS Conflict Monitor (control areas and Hezbollah incidents); Institute for the Study of War (Russian ground positions); Carter Center (rebel front lines)

Belligerents in Syria: Late November 2015

Belligerents		
Aerial combat Russia Syria	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant	Free Syrian Army ^[3] Levant Front^[4] Muslim Brotherhood^[4] Islamic Front
Ground forces Syria Hezbollah Iran Iranian-backed Shi'ite militias^[1] YPG ^[2]		Supported by: Saudi Arabia^{[5][6]} Turkey^[7] United States^{[8][9]} Army of Conquest ^[10] al-Nusra Front / al-Qaeda^[11] Ahrar ash-Sham^[12] Turkistan Islamic Party^{[13][14][15][16][17][18]} Supported by: Saudi Arabia^{[5][19]} Turkey^{[20][21]} Qatar^[19]

Units involved		
Russian Armed Forces: Russian Aerospace Forces^[12] Russian Navy^[28] Black Sea Fleet Caspian Flotilla^[29] Main Intell. Directorate of the Gen. Staff of the Armed F. of the RF - e.g. <i>Spetsnaz</i> Russian Foreign Intelligence Service: <i>Zaslon Unit</i>^[30]	Military of ISIL	Falcons of Mount Zawiya Brigade ^[38] Tajammu al-Izzah ^[39] 13th Division ^[40] al-Nusra Front ^[12] Ahrar ash-Sham ^[12] Jaysh al-Islam ^[41] Liwa al-Haqq Ajnad al-Sham ^[42]
Syrian Armed Forces: Syrian Army^[12] Syrian Air Force^[31] National Defence Forces^[32] Iranian Armed Forces: IRGC Quds Force IRGC Ground Forces Iranian Air Force (IRIAF)^{[33][34]}		Iranian-backed Shi'ite militias ^{[35][36][37][37]}

Strength		
Russia: 4,000 personnel ^[43] Naval ships 3 Buyan-M class corvettes ^[44] 1 Gepard-class frigate ^[44] 1 Vishnya-class intelligence ship 1 Improved Kilo-class submarine ^[45] 1 Slava-class cruiser ^[46] Strategic bombers 14 Tu-22M3 ^[47] 6 Tu-95MSM ^[47] 5 Tu-160 ^[47] Tactical bombers 12 Su-24M2 6 Su-34 ^[48] Attack bombers 12 Su-25SM ^[49] Fighter aircraft 4 Su-30SM ^[50] Reconnaissance aircraft Il-20M1 Attack helicopter 12 Mi-24P ^[51] Utility helicopter 4 Mi-8MTV-5 Ground equipment 3 SA-22 SAM ^[52] Other anti-aircraft and anti-missile weapons, ^[53] including S-400 ^[54] Syria: 150,000 personnel ^[55] Iran: 7,000–15,000 ^{[56][57]} Shi'ite militias: 20,000 ^[56]	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant: From 30,000 to 100,000 fighters (according to the CIA and the Iraqi Kurdistan Chief of Staff) ^[58] At least a few hundred tanks and assorted armored vehicles ^{[59][60]}	Free Syrian Army: Between 45,000 and 60,000 fighters (disputed) ^[61] Islamic Front : 40,000 ^[62] –70,000 ^[63] al-Nusra Front: 10,000 ^[64] Ahrar ash-Sham: 10,000–20,000 ^[65]

Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8e/Russian_military_action_in_Syria_in_November_2015.gif

The Complex Mix of Belligerents in Syria: Early January 2016 - I

Syrian government and allies [edit]

Name	Leader	Involved since	Strength	Description	Ideology
Syrian Armed Forces	Bashar al-Assad	March 2011	Approximately 178,000 ^[186]	Government's primary military force.	Ba'athism Secularism
National Defense Force	Bashar al-Assad	2013 ^[186]	80,000 ^[187]	Government counter-insurgency force.	Secularism
Syrian Resistance	Mihraq Ural	2011	2,000	Pro-government Marxist militia.	Socialism Marxism-Leninism
Ba'ath Brigades	Bashar al-Assad	2012	7,000 ^[188]	Pro-government counter-insurgency militia.	Ba'athism Secularism
Arab Nationalist Guard		2013	1,000+ ^[189]	Pan-Arabic group from various Arab Countries.	Secularism Pan-Arabism
Shia Militias:					
Hezbollah	Hassan Nasrallah	2012 ^[190]	2,000 ^[190]	Militant group based in Lebanon.	Shia Islamism
Liwa Abu al-Fadhal al-Abbas	Abu Ajeeb	2012	10,000 ^[191]	Shia Syrian militant group formed due to desecration of shrines, heritage sites and place of worship by the rebels. It is Active around Damascus.	Shia Islamism
Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq	Akram al-Kaabi	2012		An offshoot of Iraqi Shia insurgent group. It is active around Aleppo.	Shia Islamism
Kata'ib Hezbollah		2012		An Iraqi Shia militia	Shia Islamism
Badr Organization		2012		An Iraqi Shia militia	Shia Islamism
Kata'ib Sayyid al-Shuhada		2013		An Iraqi Shia militia	Shia Islamism

Syrian opposition and allies [edit]

Name	Leader	Involved since	Strength	Description	Ideology
Free Syrian Army	Abdul-Ilah al-Bashir	July 2011	40,000 ^[191]	Main opposition group. Initially an umbrella term for defected Syrian soldiers, later became more organized.	Freedom and democracy
Sunni Militias:					
Ajnad al-Sham Islamic Union	Muhammad Abu al-Fatih	December 2013	15,000 ^[192]	Merger of Damascus area rebel groups ^[192]	Sunni Islamism
Sham Legion	Mondher Saras ^[72]	10 March 2014 ^[72]		Alliance of 19 different groups ^[193]	Islamic democracy ^[72]
Authenticity and Development Front	Khalid al-Hammad	November 2012	13,000 ^[194]		Sunni Islamism
Army of Mujahideen		January 2014 ^[195]	≈5,000 ^[196]	Coalition of Aleppo area Islamist rebels formed to fight ISIL.	Sunni Islamism ^[197]

Al-Qaeda network [edit]

Name	Leader	Involved since	Strength	Description	Ideology
Al-Nusra Front	Abu Mohammad al-Golan ^[198]	January 2012	7,000 ^[199] –15,000 ^[200]	Designated by the US as a terrorist group. Pledged allegiance to Al-Qaeda.	Salafist jihadism Islamic fundamentalism
Jabhat Ansar al-Din ^[117]		25 July 2014 ^[117]		Alliance of independent jihadist groups ^{[117][201]}	

The Complex Mix of Belligerents in Syria: Early January 2016 - II

Syrian opposition and allies [edit]

Name	Leader	Involved since	Strength	Description	Ideology
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Sunni Militias:					
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Jabhat Ansar al-Din ^[117]		25 July 2014 ^[117]		Alliance of independent jihadist groups ^{[117][201]}	

The Complex Mix of Combat Forces in Syria: Early January 2016

Syrian Arab Republic and allies	Syrian Opposition and al-Qaeda network and allies	Kurdish self-administration and allies	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and allies
Syrian government forces - Syrian Armed Forces - Syrian Arab Army - Syrian Arab Air Force - Syrian Arab Navy - Republican Guard - National Defence Force - Jaysh al-Sharbi - Suqur al-Sahara - Ba'ath Brigades^[1] Allied armed groups: - Syrian Social Nationalist Party^[2] - Arab Nationalist Guard^[3] - Syrian Resistance^[4] - Arab Democratic Party^[5] - Jaysh al-Muwahhideen^[2] - Forces of Abu Ibrahim^[6] - Sootoro - PFLP-GC^[7] - Liwa Al-Quds^[8] - Palestine Liberation Army^[9] - Liwa Abu al-Fadhal al-Abbas^[10] - Liwa Fatemiyoun^[11] - Faylak Wa'ad al-Sadiq^[12] - Fatah al-Intifada^[13] - Popular Mobilization Forces (Iraq) - Kata'ib Sayyid al-Shuhada - Badr Organization^[14] - Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq^[14] - Kata'ib Hezbollah^[15] - Peace Companies^[16] - DHKP-C^[17] - Houthis^[18] - Jaysh al-Wafaa^[19] - Liwa Dhu al-Fiqar^{[20][21]} - Dareh al-Sahe^[22] - Dareh al-Areen^[22] - Al-Hosn^[22] - Dareh al-Watan^[22] - al-Berri clan^{[23][24]} - Tayy tribe militias^[25] - al-Jihesh tribe militias^[26] - Maghawir Forces^[27] - Far right volunteers^{[28][29]} - Popular Committees (2012) - Slavonic Corps^{[30][31] (2013)} Hezbollah^[32] Iran^{[33][34][35]} - Revolutionary Guards^[36] - Quds Force^[37] - Basij^{[38][39][40]} Russia^[41] Armament support: - Russia^{[42][43]} - Iran^[44] - North Korea^{[45][46][47]} - Iraq^[48] - Egypt (from 2015)^[49] - Belarus^[50] Non-lethal support: - Venezuela^{[51][52][53][54][55]} - Angola^[56] - China^{[57][58]} - Algeria^[59] - Armenia^[60] - Cuba^[61]	Syrian opposition - Free Syrian Army - Southern Front - Homs Liberation Movement^{[62][63]} - Jaysh al-Nasr^[64] - Falcons of Mount Zawiya Brigade - Northern Division^{[65][66]} 13th Division 16th Division^[67] 46th Division^[68] 1st Coastal Division 2nd Coastal Division - al-Rahman Legion - Islamic Front - Ahrar ash-Sham - Jaysh al-Islam - Al-Fawj al-Awal^[69] - Northern Storm Brigade - Ansar al-Sham - Jalish al-Sham^[70] - Levant Front - Ajnad al-Sham Islamic Union^[71] - Sham Legion^[72] - Jabhat Ansar al-Islam Allied armed groups: - Criterion Brigades - Syrian Turkmen Brigades - Grey Wolves^{[73][74][75]} - Muslim Brotherhood of Syria^[76] - Shields of the Revolution Council - Hamas^{[77][78]} Joint operations rooms^[79] - Army of Conquest - Unified Military Command of Eastern Ghouta^{[80][81]} - Jaysh al-Islam/al-Rahman Legion^{[82][83]} - Fatah Halab^{[84][85]} - Uthmaniyah Operations Room^[86] - Northern Homs Countryside Operations Room^{[87][88]} - Risam bi Allah^[89] - Houla Operations Room^[90] - Jaysh al-Tawheed^{[91][92]} - Ansar al-Sharia^[93] - Jalish al-Haramoun^[94] - Saraya Ahl al-Sham^[95] - Jund al-Malahm^[96] - al Marj Operations Room^[97] Armament support: - Qatar^{[98][99]} - Saudi Arabia^{[99][100]} - Turkey - United States^{[101][102]} - France^[103] - Libya (until 2014)^[104] Non-lethal support: - United Kingdom^[105] - Canada^[106] - Germany^[107] - Netherlands^[108] - Italy^{[109][110]} - United Arab Emirates^{[111][112][113]} - Jordan^[114] - Egypt (until 2013) Salafi jihadists: - Al-Nusra Front - Khorasan Group^[115] - Jalish al-Muhajireen wal-Ansar^[116] - Jabhat Ansar al-Din^[117] - Ghuraba al-Sham^[118] - Fatah al-Islam^{[119][120][121]} - Muhajirin wa-Ansar Alliance^[122] - Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan^[123] - Turkistan Islamic Party^[124] - Islamic Muthanna Movement^[125] - Imam Bukhari Jamaat - Abdullah Azzam Brigades	Kurdish Supreme Committee - People's Protection Units (YPG) - Women's Protection Units (YPJ) - Asayish^[130] - Self-Defence Forces (HDP)^[131] - Self Protection Force (HPC)^[132] Syriac Union Party - Syriac Military Council (MFS)^[133] - Sutoro^[134] Syrian Democratic Assembly^{[135][136][137]} - Syrian Democratic Forces Allied armed groups: - Kurdistan Workers' Party - People's Defence Forces - Free Women's Units - Al-Sanadi Forces - Army of Revolutionaries^[138] - Liwa Thuwwar al-Raqqa - Jabhat al-Akrad - International Freedom Battalion^{[139][140]} - TKP-Kivircim - Yekiti Party - Liwa Siquir El-Badiye^[141] - Shammer tribe militias^[142] - Sharabiyya tribe militias^[143] - Zubayd tribe militias^[144] - Al-Shaitat tribe militias^[145] - Sinjar Resistance Units^[146] Iraqi Kurdistan - Peshmarga Armament support: - Iraqi Kurdistan - Kurdistan Regional Government^[147] - Kurdistan Democratic Party^[148] - Patriotic Union of Kurdistan^[149] - France^[149] - United States^[150] - Russia^{[151][152]} - Syria (alleged)^{[153][154][155][156][157]} Airstrikes: - United States - Saudi Arabia - Jordan - Bahrain - United Arab Emirates - Morocco - France - Australia^[158] - United Kingdom^[159] - Canada^[160] - Russia^{[161][162][163][164]} Non-lethal support: - Germany^[165] - Finland^[166]	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant - Military of ISIL See: Syrian opposition-ISIL Conflict - Yarmouk Martyrs Brigade^{[167][168] (allegedly)^[169]} - Jaysh al-Jihad^[170] - Dokumaciya^{[171][172]}

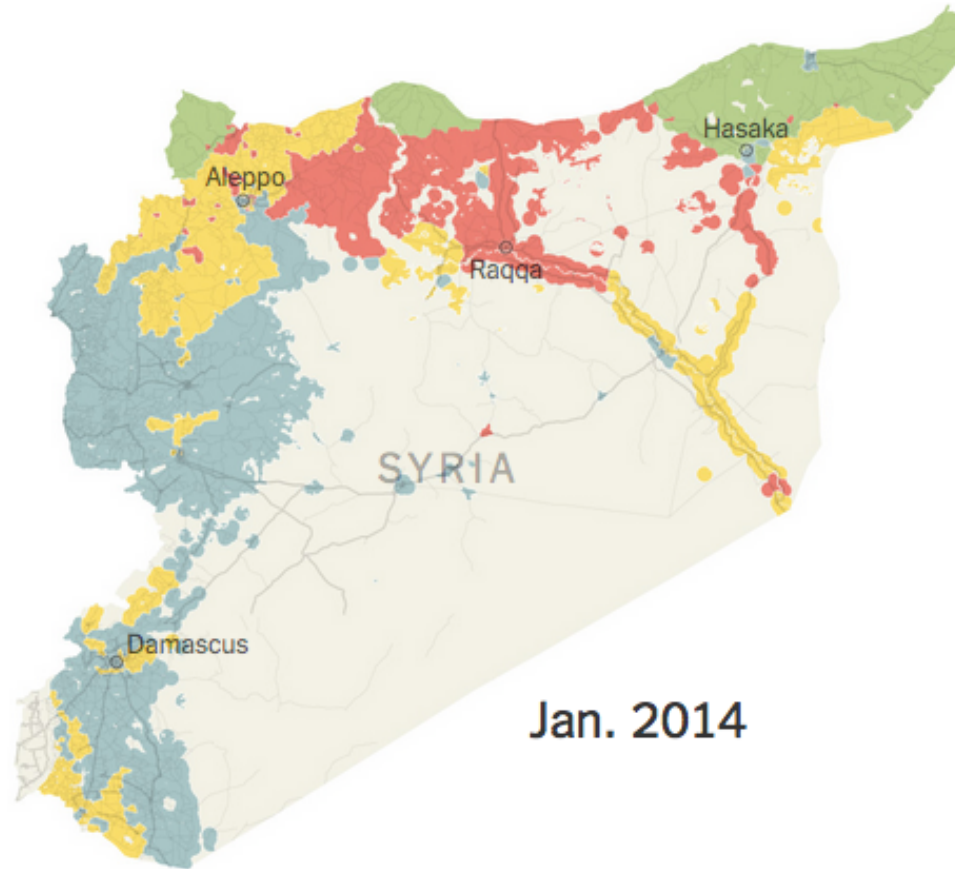
Source: Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_armed_groups_in_the_Syrian_civil_war, January 29, 2016

New U.S. Strategy in Syria

- **Shift away from Iraq first strategy, which is “tactically stalemated,” to more active role in Syria.**
- **Step up air strikes in support of moderate forces.**
- **Downplay or abandon major formal training efforts (5,000 a year, 15,000 total) of New Syrian Army/Syrian Arab Coalition forces by U.S. military advisors.**
- **Focus on CIA and forward Special Forces efforts to support Kurdish and Arab Sunni forces. Provide more ammo. Light weapons.**
- **Work with Arab Gulf states, Turkey, Jordan to support other more moderate rebel forces. Help expedite flow of ammo and weapons.**
- **In the north, work with Syrian Kurds (20,000-25,000) and U.S. CIA-Special Forces-Qatar-Saudi trained Arab volunteers (3,000-5,000) to move on ISIS and advance toward Raqqa. Provide them with far more air support.**
- **In south, use rebels trained in Jordan to funnel more ammo and weapons, support advances on ISIS.**
- **Role of existing three U.S.-backed factions of Free Syrian Army — Liwa Suqour al-Jabal rebel and others — in area now under Russian air attack unclear.**

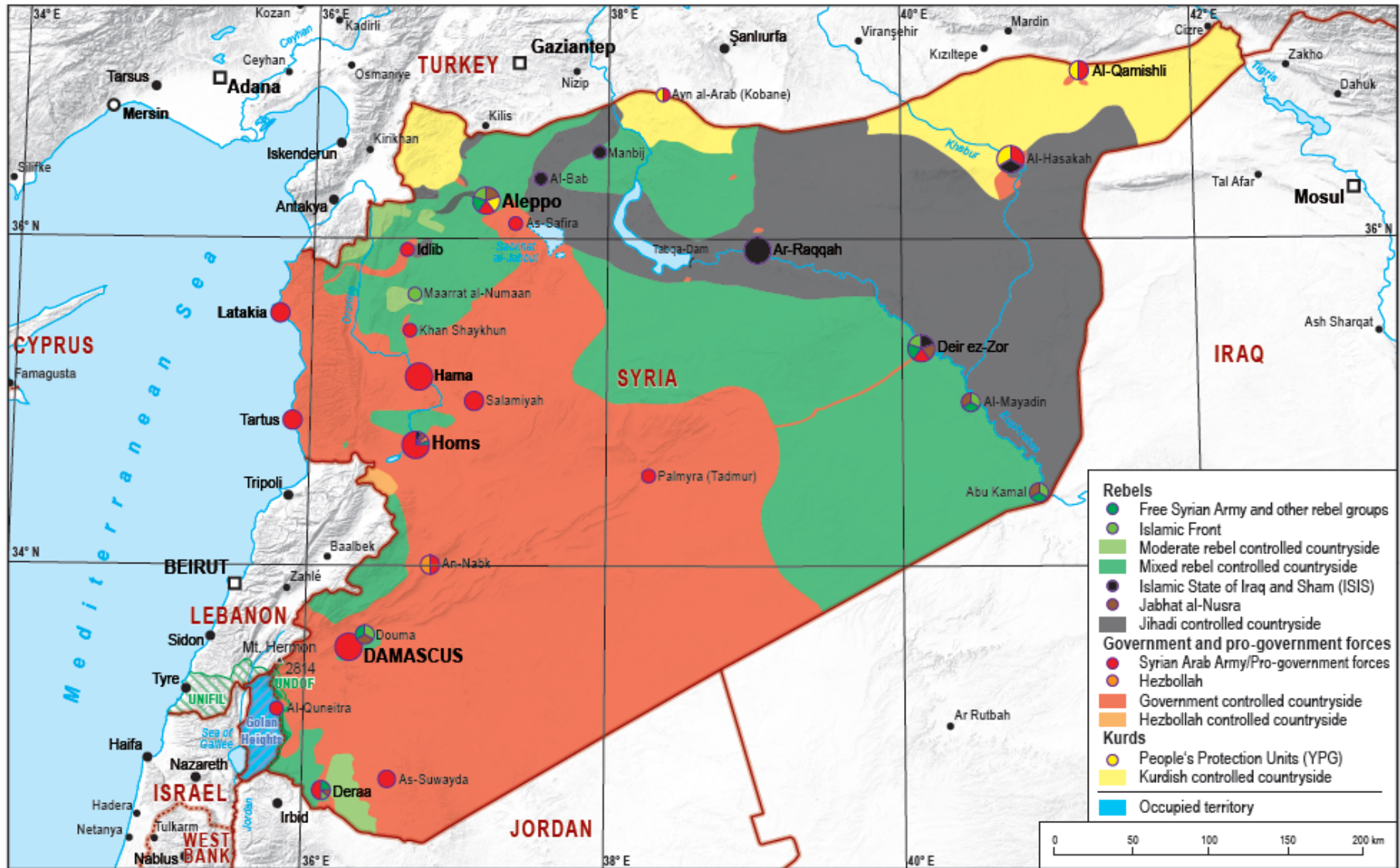
Shifting Areas of Control in Syria: 1/2014

Government Rebels ISIS Kurds



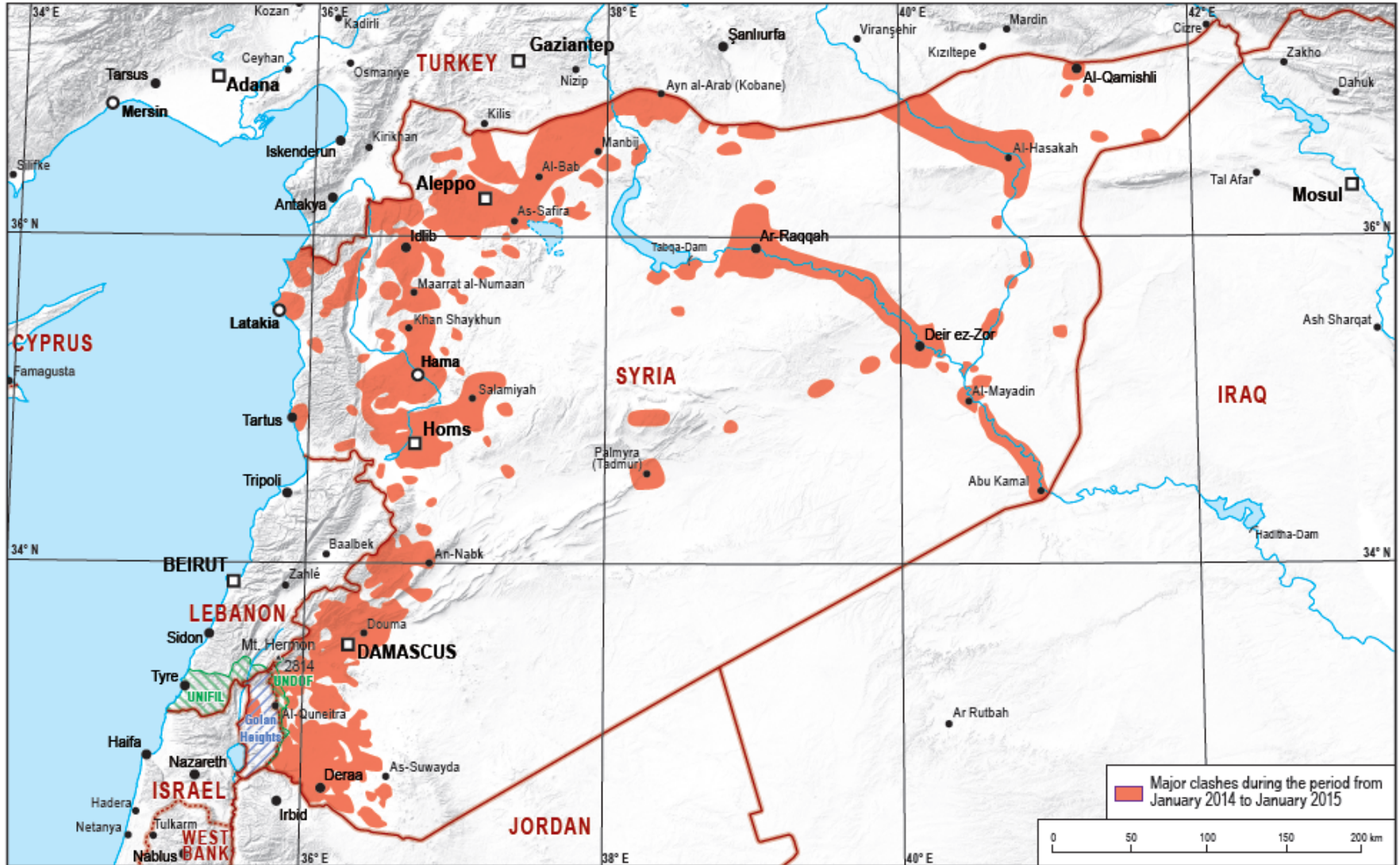
Rebel groups held areas throughout Syria, while the Islamic State controlled territory mostly in the northwest.

Syria: Control of Territory: January 2014



Source: ISW - Institute for the study of war, SOHR - Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, CENTCOM - US Central Command, Agathocle de Syracuse - Understanding modern conflicts, Pletervanostaeyen - Musings on Arabism, Islamism, History and current affairs
 Moderate Rebels: Rebels who have been identified as „moderate“ by the U.S.-led coalition and are being supported by the coalition through ongoing airstrikes against ISIS in Syria (e.g.: FSA, Syria Revolutionaries Front).
 Mixed Rebels: Rebels who are being perceived as moderate but are also working alongside hardline groups (e.g. Jabhat al-Nusra). In some cases they coexist without interacting and in other cases they clash.

Syria: Major Clashes: January 2014- January 2015

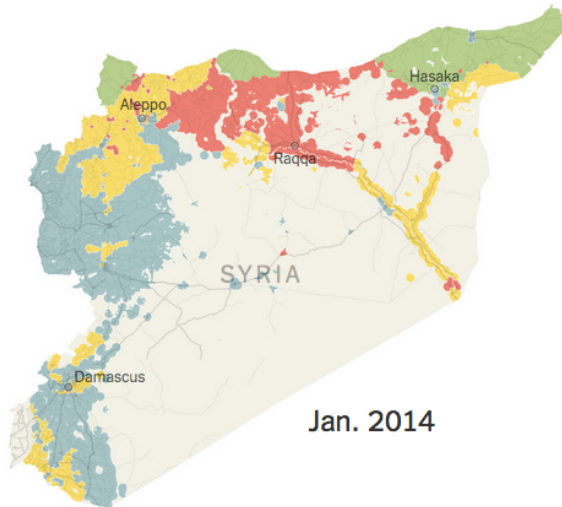


Source: ISW - Institute for the study of war, SOHR - Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, CENTCOM - US Central Command

Major clash: Every military/violent confrontation between armed actors (including airstrikes, artillery fire, bombings, suicide vests, Suicide Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices [SVBIED] and Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices [VBIED]).

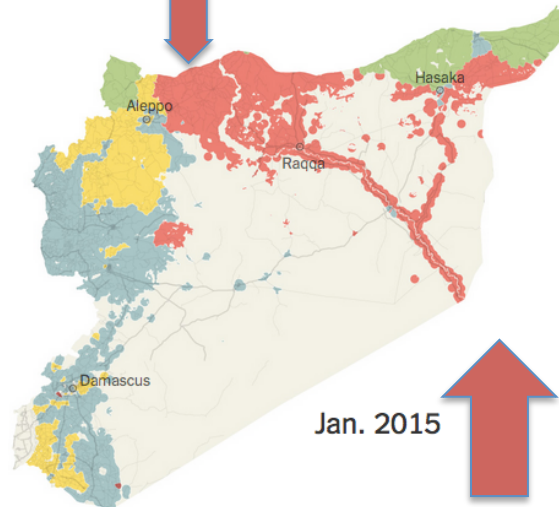
Shifting Areas of Control in Syria: 1/2014 to 10/2015

Government Rebels ISIS Kurds



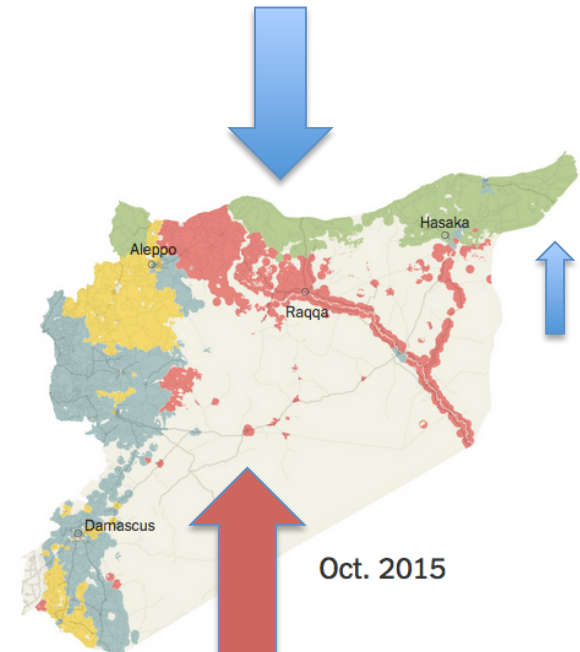
Jan. 2014

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Jan. 2015

The Islamic State rapidly gained territory in 2014, establishing governance in Raqqah and controlling the Euphrates River to Iraq.

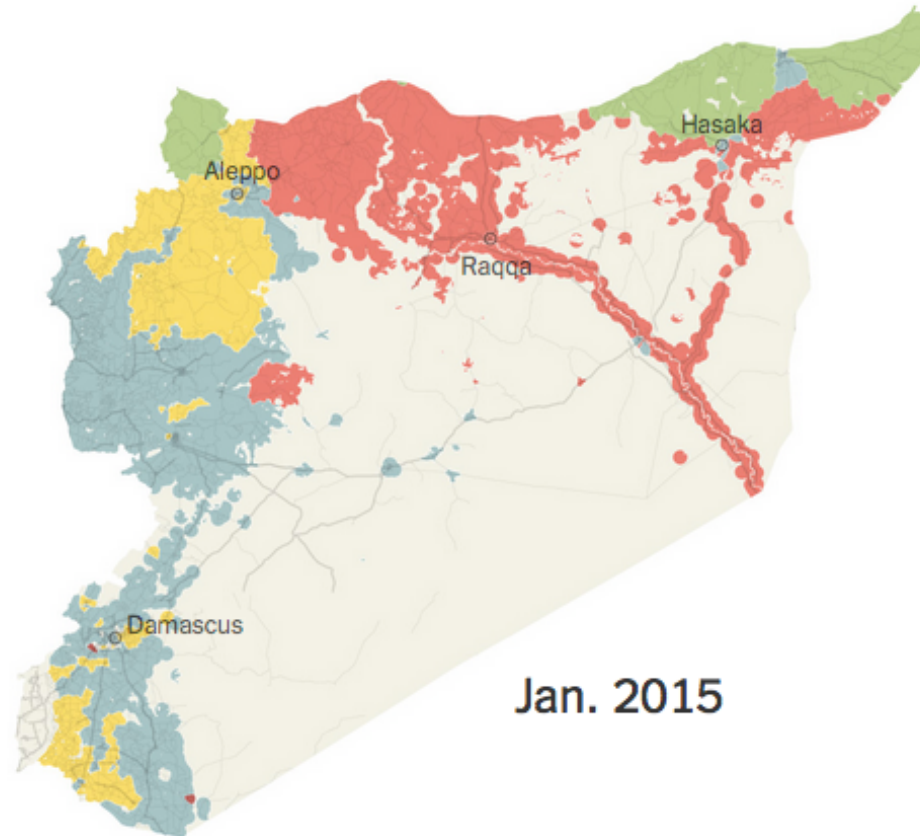


Oct. 2015

Kurdish groups pushed the Islamic State out of some northern regions. Rebel forces gained control of some areas in Idlib province.

Shifting Areas of Control in Syria: 1/2015

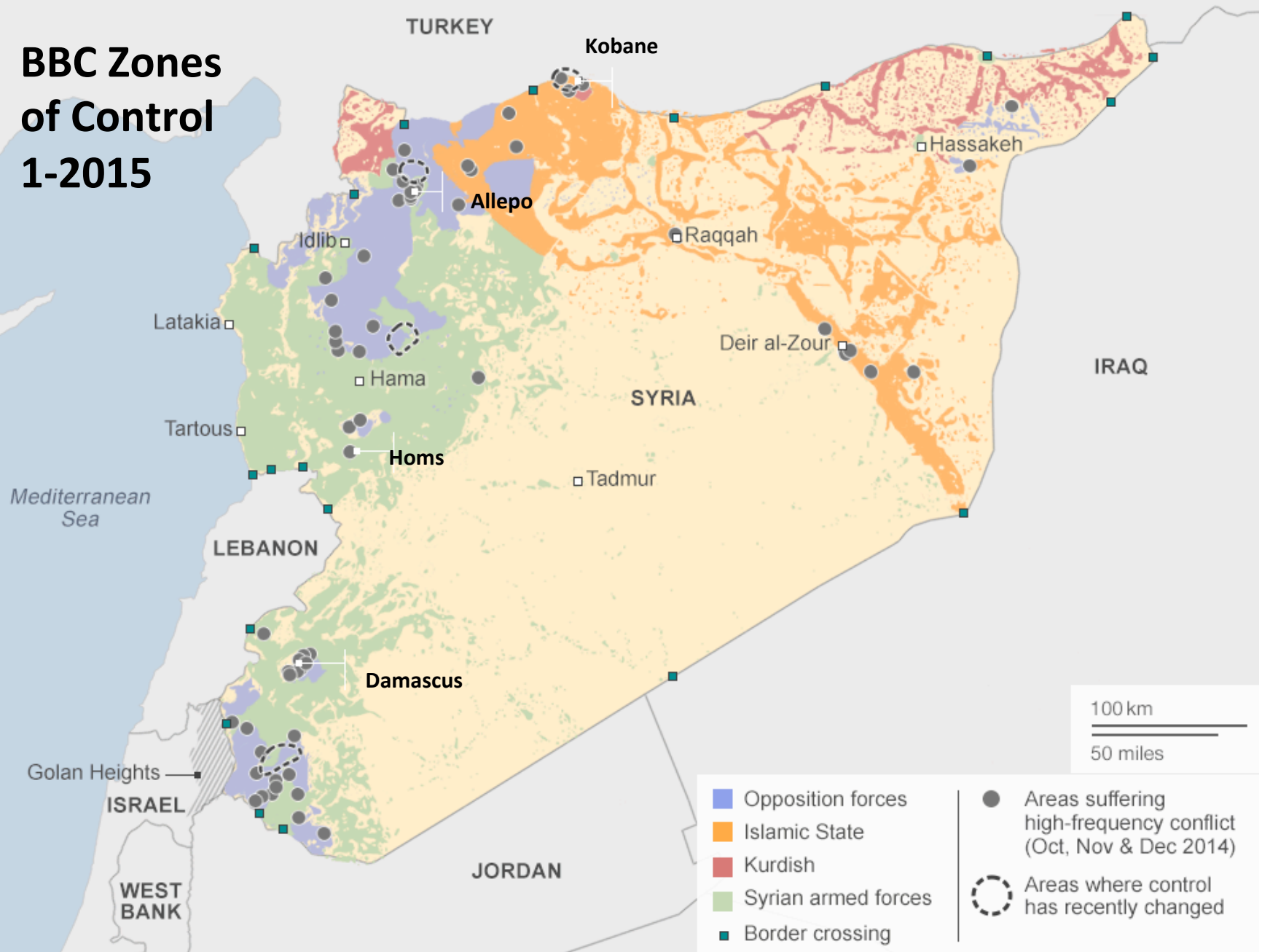
Government Rebels ISIS Kurds



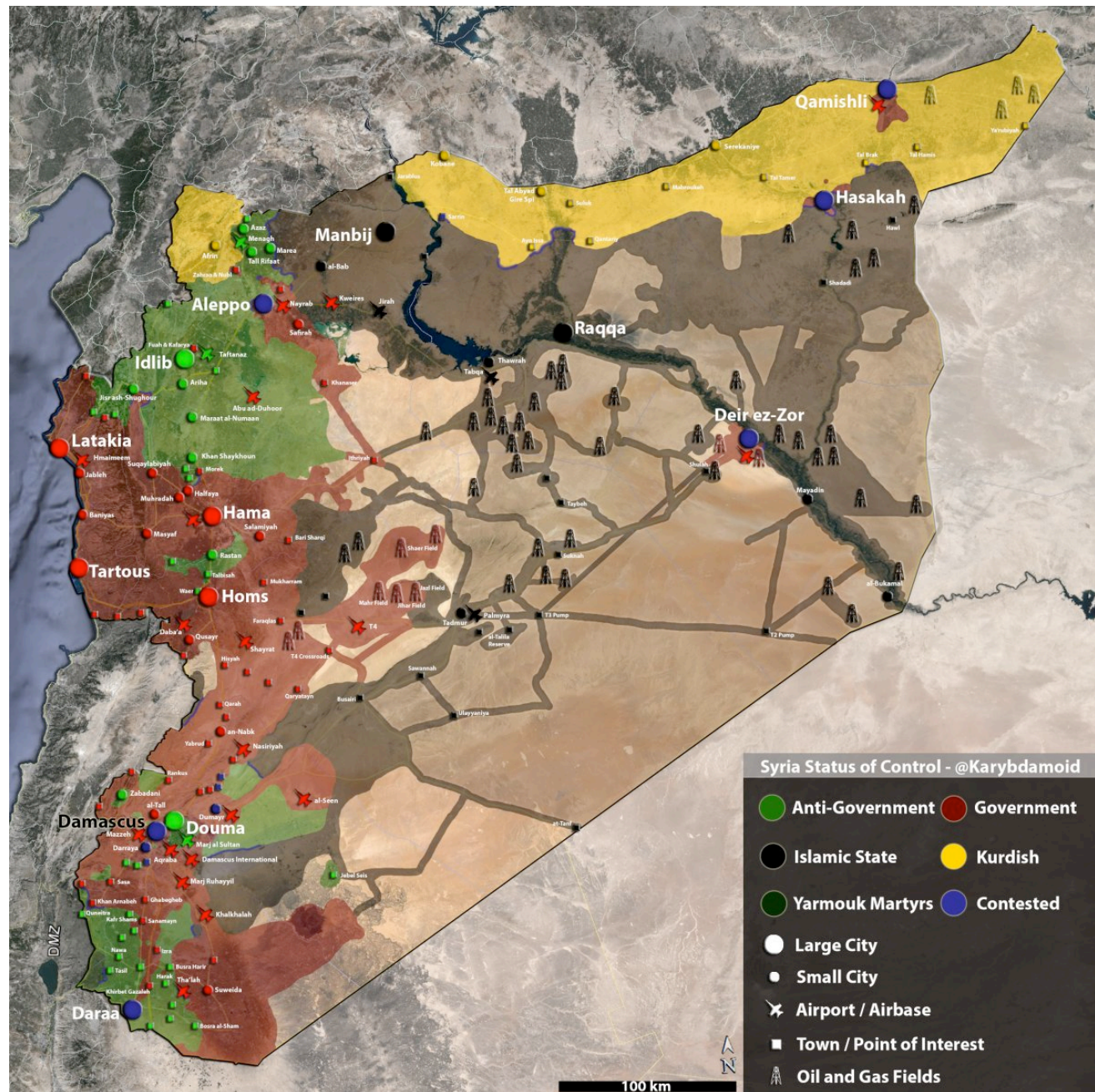
Jan. 2015

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BBC Zones of Control 1-2015



Rough Estimate of Current Areas of Control: 6-30-2015



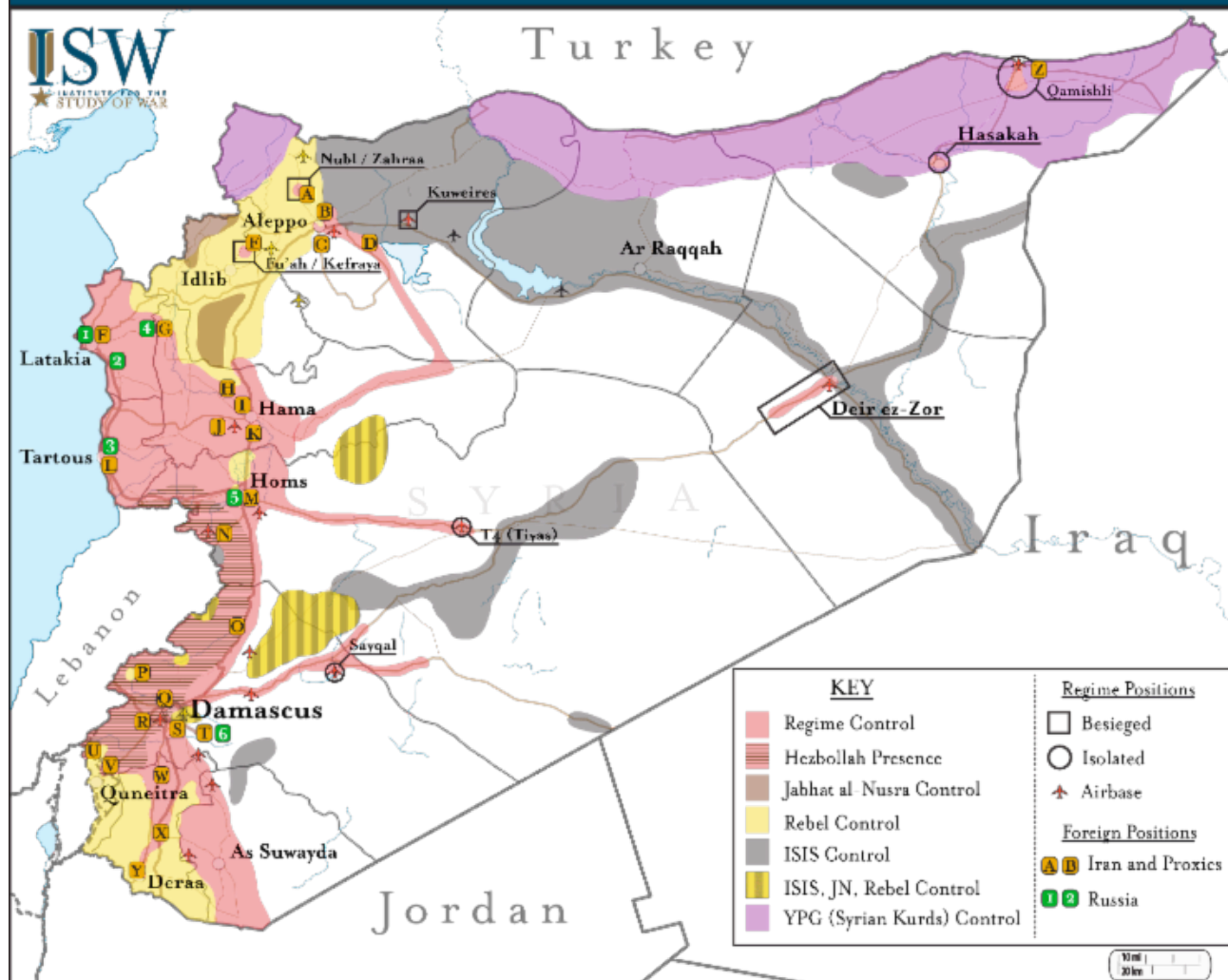
Source: [Pamela Engel](http://www.businessinsider.com/map-of-syria-shows-what-isis-is-truly-fighting-for-2015-6#ixzz3kOBnu5GO),
This detailed Syria map shows what territory ISIS is truly fighting for, Business Insider, June 30, 2015,;
<http://www.businessinsider.com/map-of-syria-shows-what-isis-is-truly-fighting-for-2015-6#ixzz3kOBnu5GO>

Posture of Syrian Regime and Allies: September 14, 2015

Zones of Control in Syria

ISW Estimate

September 2, 2015



KNOWN IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS (IRGC) OR PROXY POSITION

A - Nubl and Zahraa
 B - Bashkuy and Handarat
 C - Neyrab Airbase / Aleppo Airport
 D - As-Safira Defense Factories
 E - Fu'ah and Kefraya
 F - Latakia City
 G - Joureen
 H - Tel al-Nasiriyah
 I - Qumhana
 J - Hama Military Airport

K - Brigade 47 and Tel Qartal
 L - Tartous City
 M - Homs City
 N - Qusayr
 O - Yabroud
 P - Zabadani
 Q - Jamraya
 R - Mezze District and Airbase
 S - Sayyida Zeinab District
 T - Damascus International Airport

U - Amal Farms
 V - Nabi al-Fawwar
 W - Sanamayn
 X - Izraa
 Y - Dera'a Municipal Stadium
 Z - Qamishli Airport

KNOWN RUSSIAN POSITION

1 - Port of Latakia
 2 - Bassel al-Assad Airport
 3 - Tartous Naval Facility
 4 - Slinfah
 5 - Homs City
 6 - Damascus International Airport

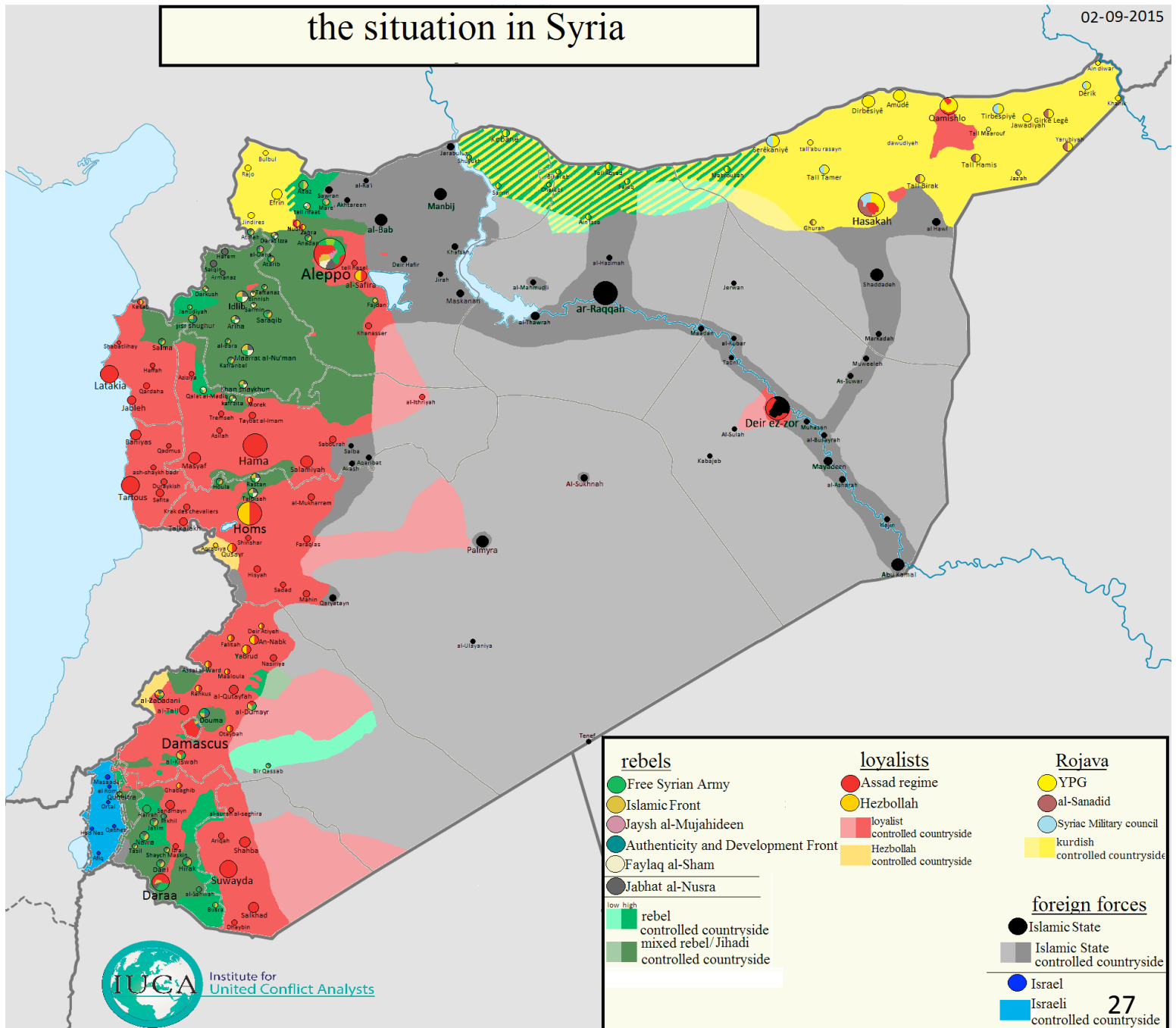
Source: Institute for the Study of War,
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/ISW/14fdf9c79b69ce51>

Zones of Control in Syria

UCA Estimate

September 2, 2015

Source: Institute for United Conflict Analysis
s://pietervanostaeyen.files.wordpress.com/2015/09/2000px-syria15.png

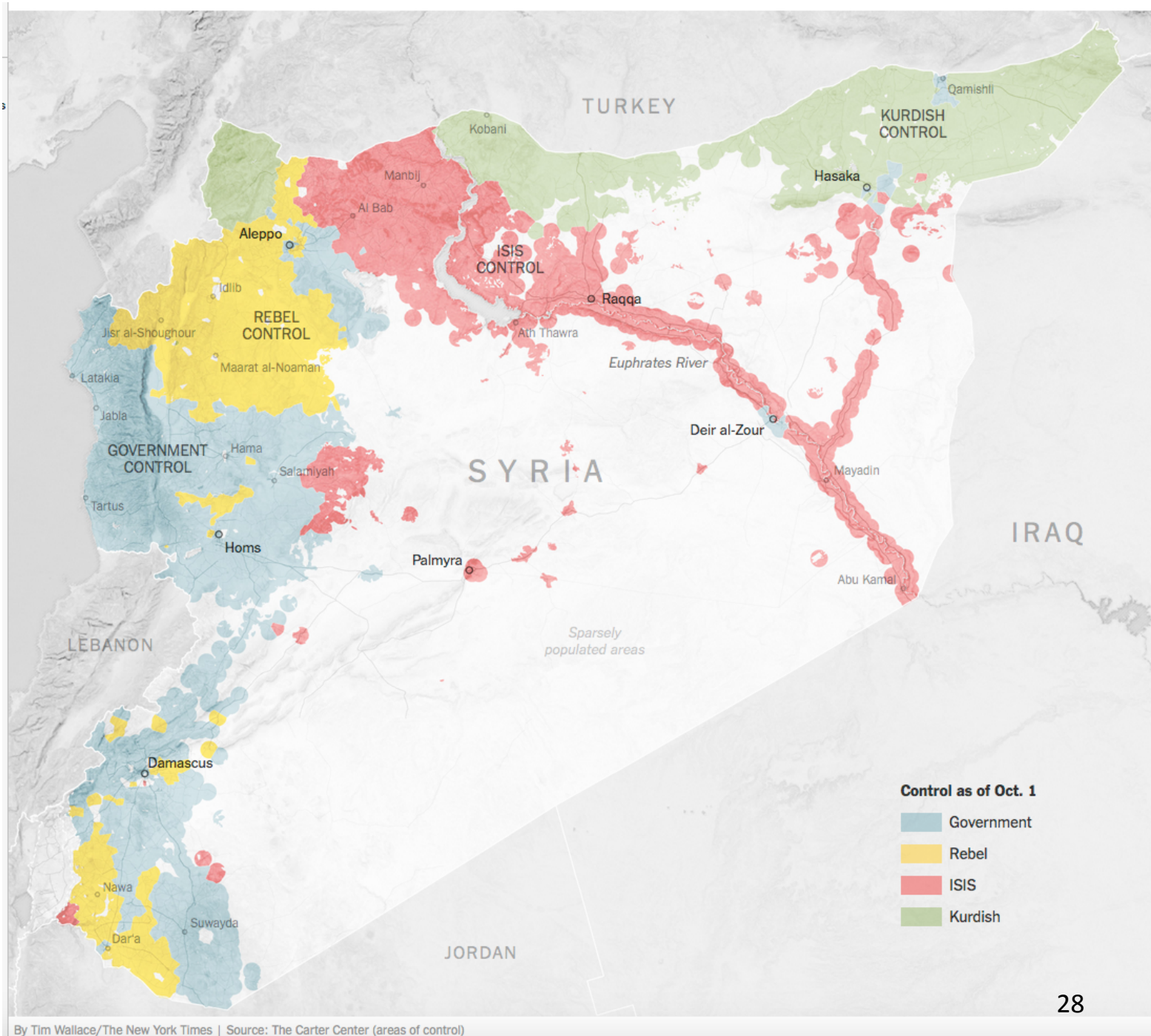


Institute for United Conflict Analysts

Local Force Postures in Syria:

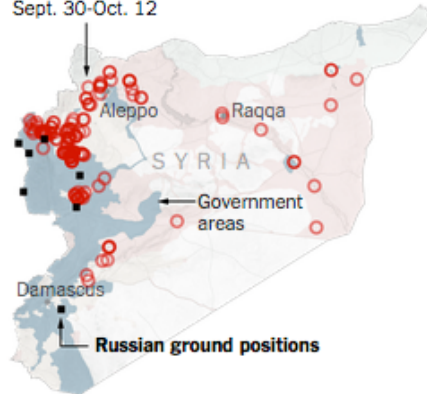
NYT Map
1/10/2015

Source:
[http://
www.nytimes
.com/
interactive/
2015/09/29/
world/
middleeast/
10000000394
8336.app.htm
l?_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/09/29/world/middleeast/100000003948336.app.htm?_r=0)

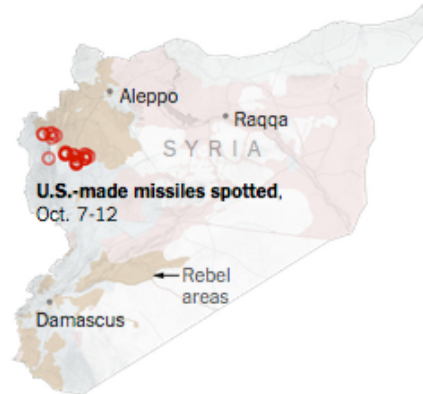


Syria War 30/9/15 to 12/10, 2015: NYT Estimate

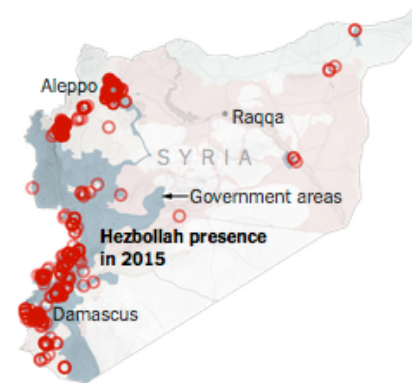
Russian airstrikes,
Sept. 30-Oct. 12



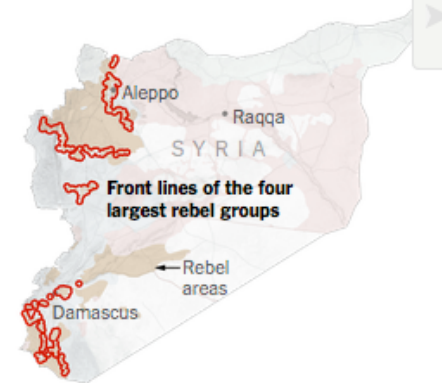
Russia has bases and advisers in several government-controlled locations. It has mainly targeted rebels in areas where the government had been losing ground.



Rebels in areas targeted by Russian airstrikes have used antitank missiles made in the **United States**.



Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps and Hezbollah have been advising and shoring up pro-Assad forces since 2012.

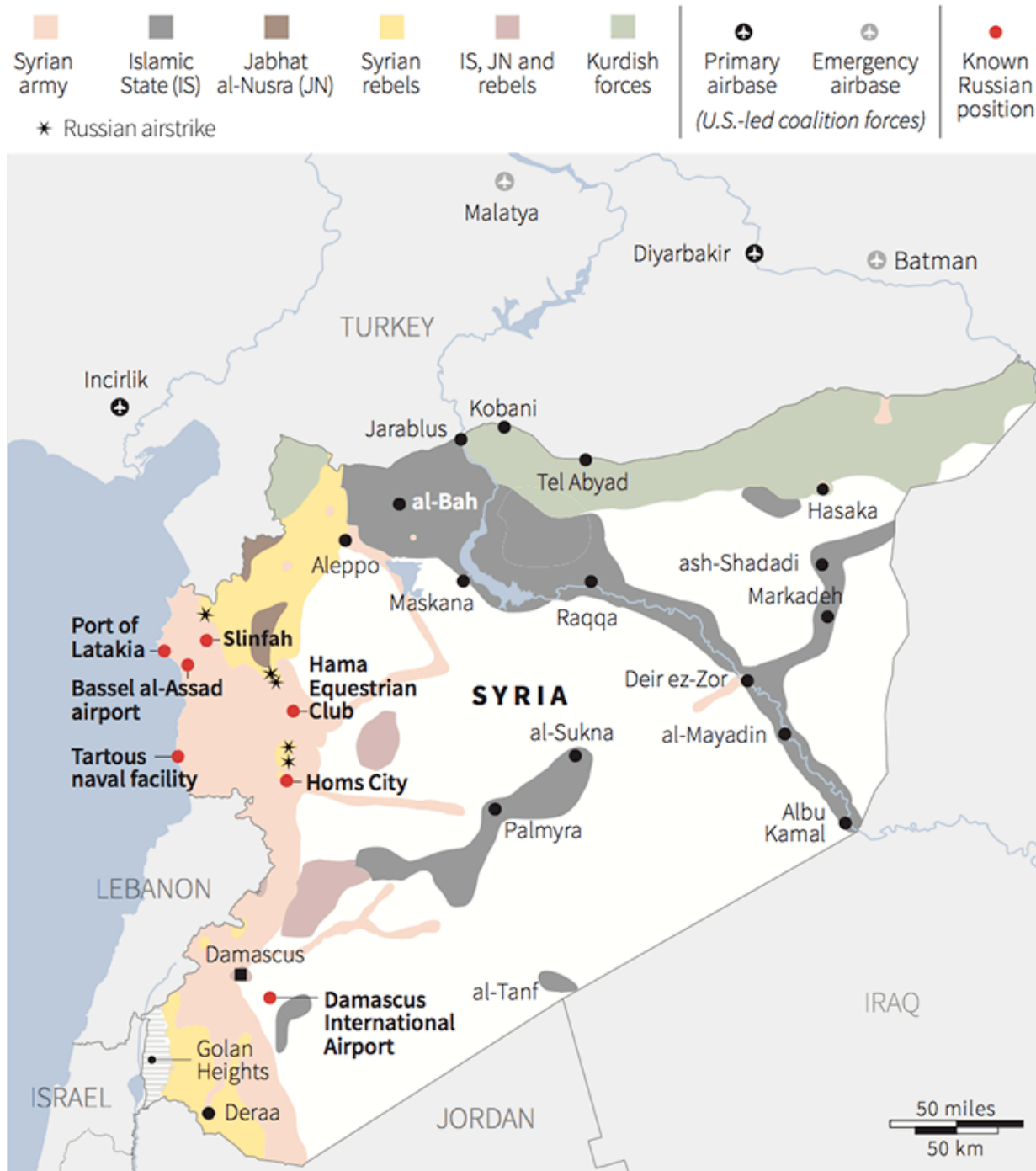


Most rebel groups supported by the **United States, Saudi Arabia, Qatar** and **Turkey** are in western Syria.

Local Force Postures in Syria:

Reuters
Map
4/10/2015

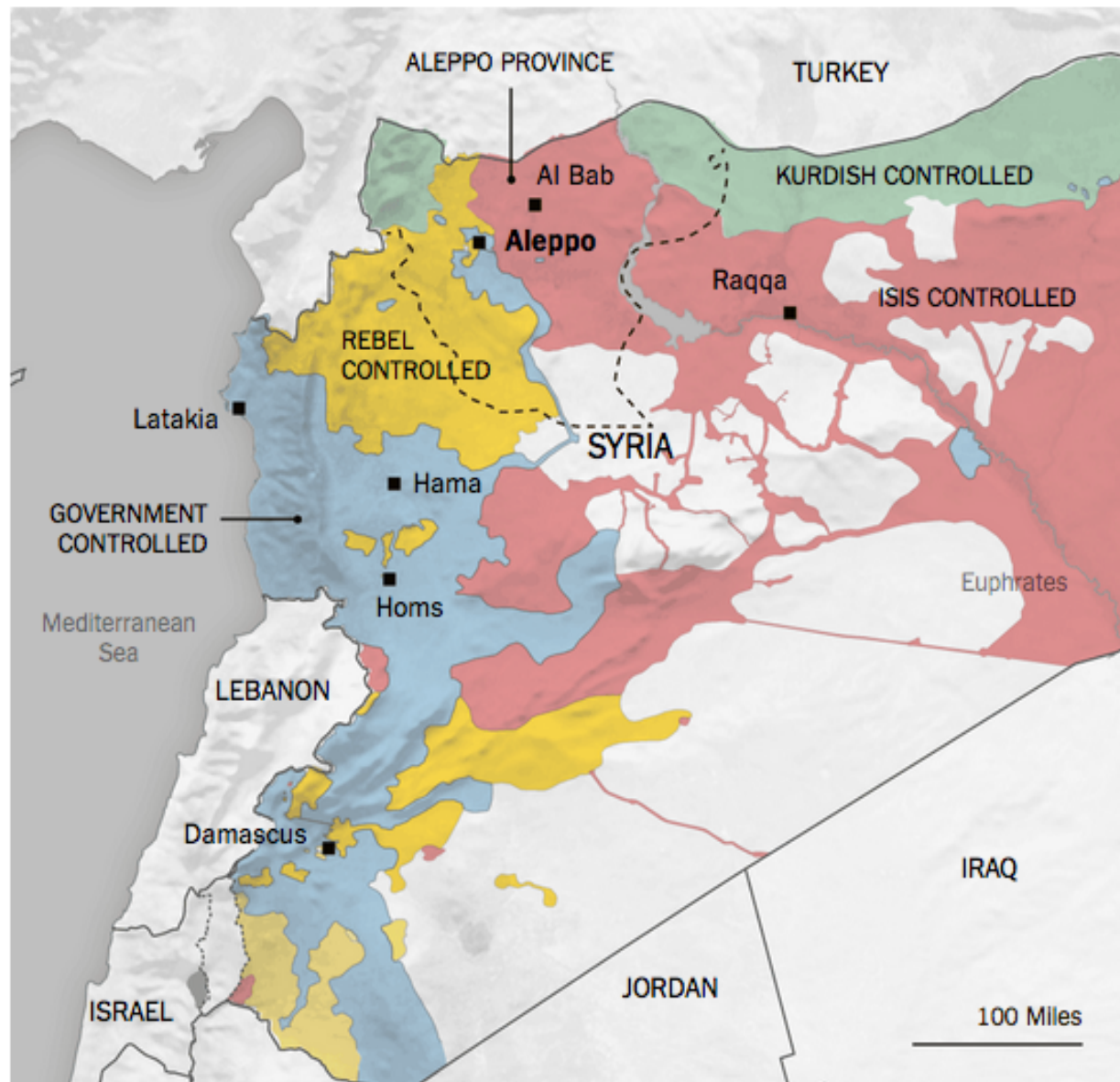
Source:
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-10-02/iran-troops-to-join-syria-war-russia-bombs-group-trained-by-cia/6821822>



Areas of Control in Western Syria:

New York Times Map
5/10/2015

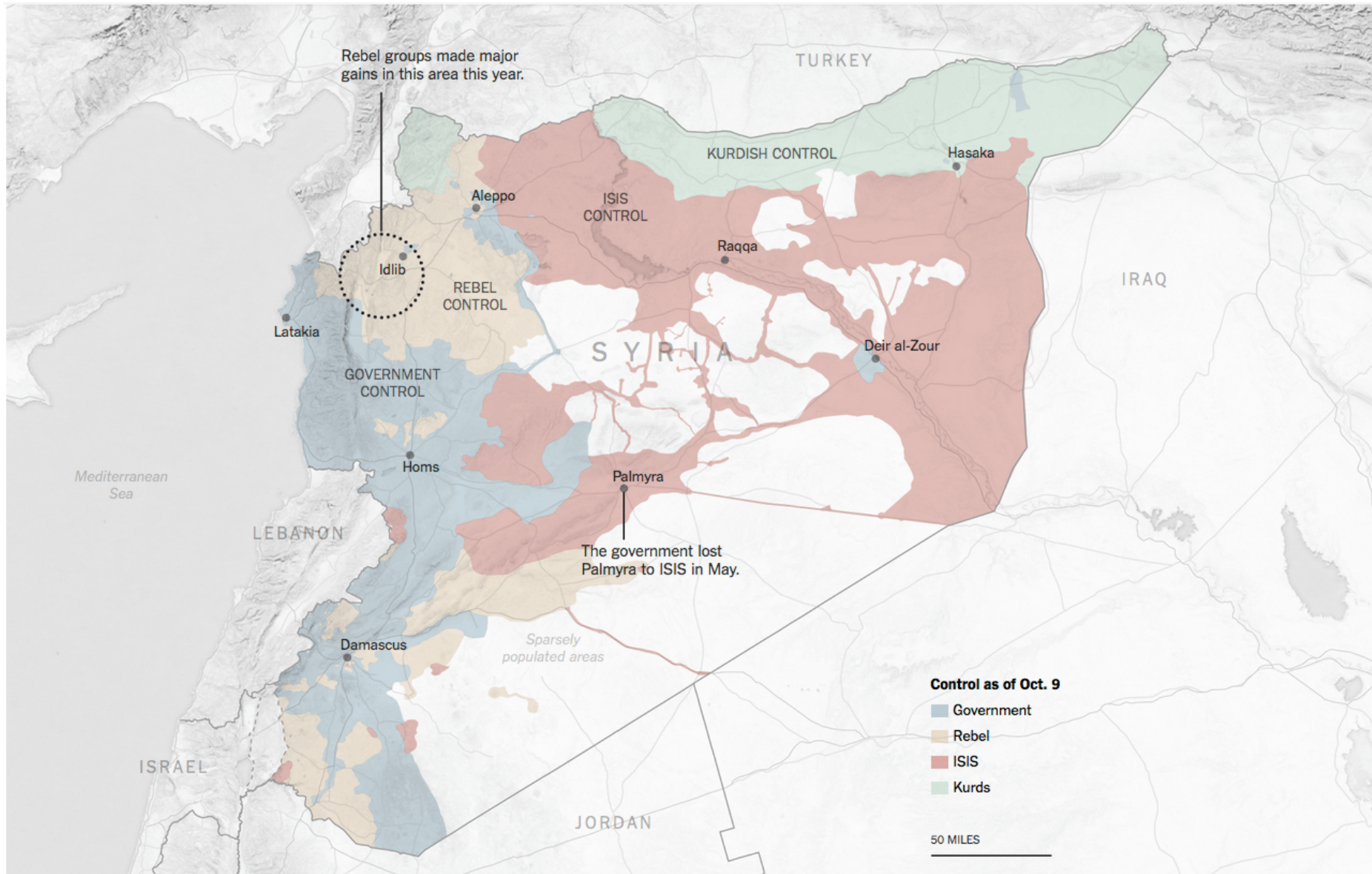
Source:
<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/10/world/middleeast/hussein-hamedani-iran-general-killed-in-syria.html?smprod=nytcore-ipad&smid=nytcore-ipad-share>



Source: IHS Conflict Monitor (control areas as of Oct. 5)

By The New York Times

Broader View of Zones of Control in Syria 10.15



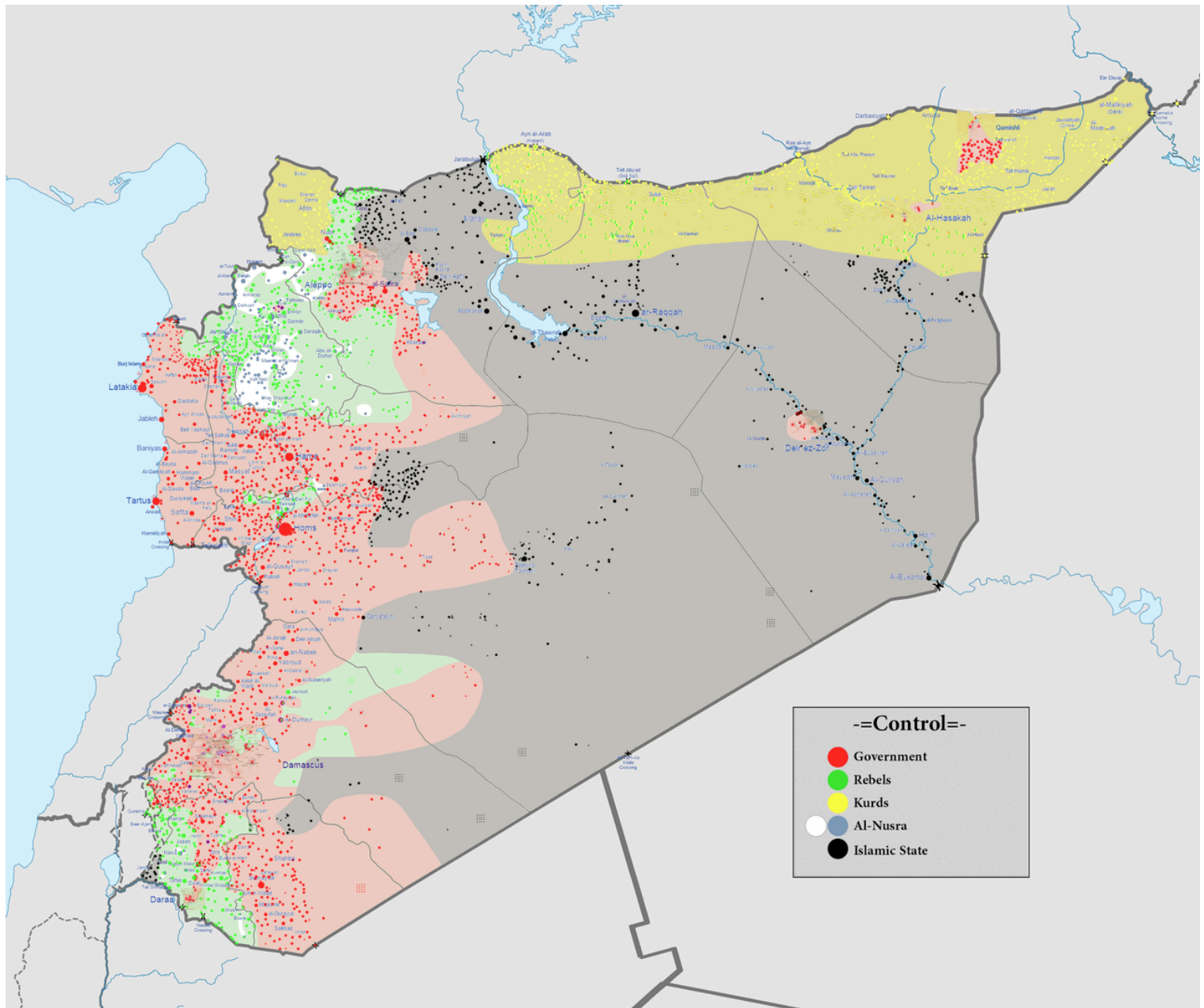
Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

Source: Pencana, Almkhitar, and Lai; *New York Times*, <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/10/16/world/middleeast/untangling-the-overlapping-conflicts-in-the-syrian-war.html>.

Wikipedia Estimate of Location of Combat Forces in Syria

As of
January
24, 2016

Source: Wikipedia,
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_armed_groups_in_the_Syrian_Civil_War#/media/File:Syrian_civil_war.png,

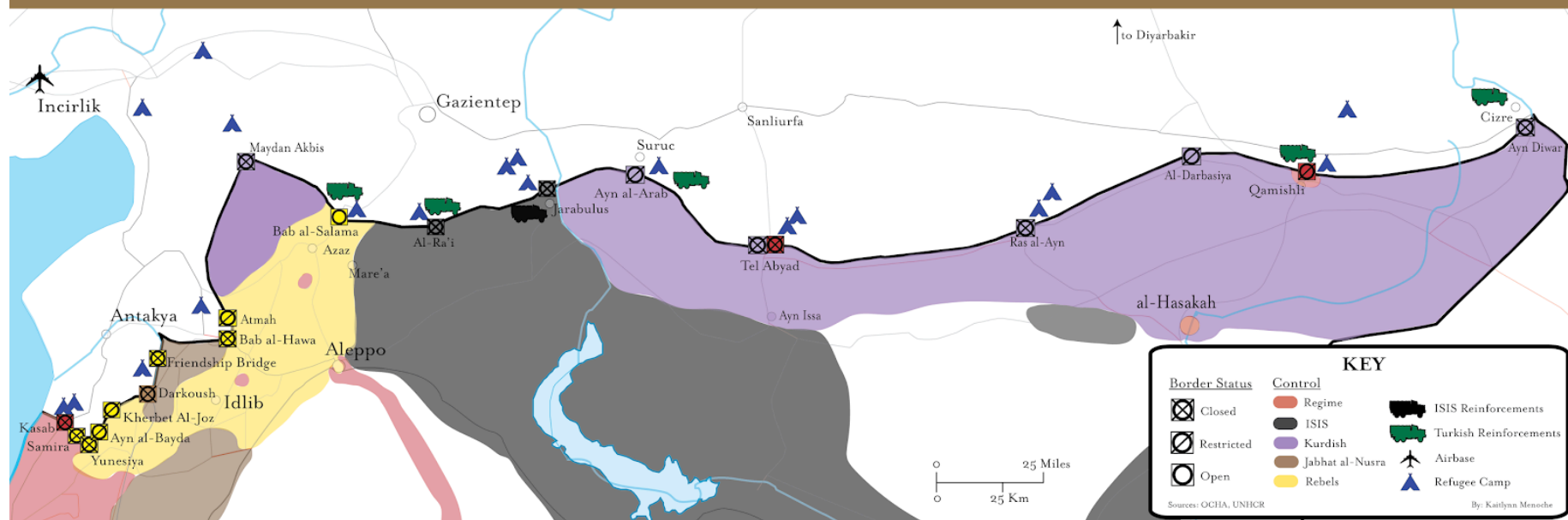


Military Situation on the Turkish Border: ISW Estimate

September 14, 2015



Military Situation on the Syrian-Turkish Border: September 14, 2015



Source: Institute for the Study of War.
<http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2015/09/military-situation-on-syrian-turkish14.html>

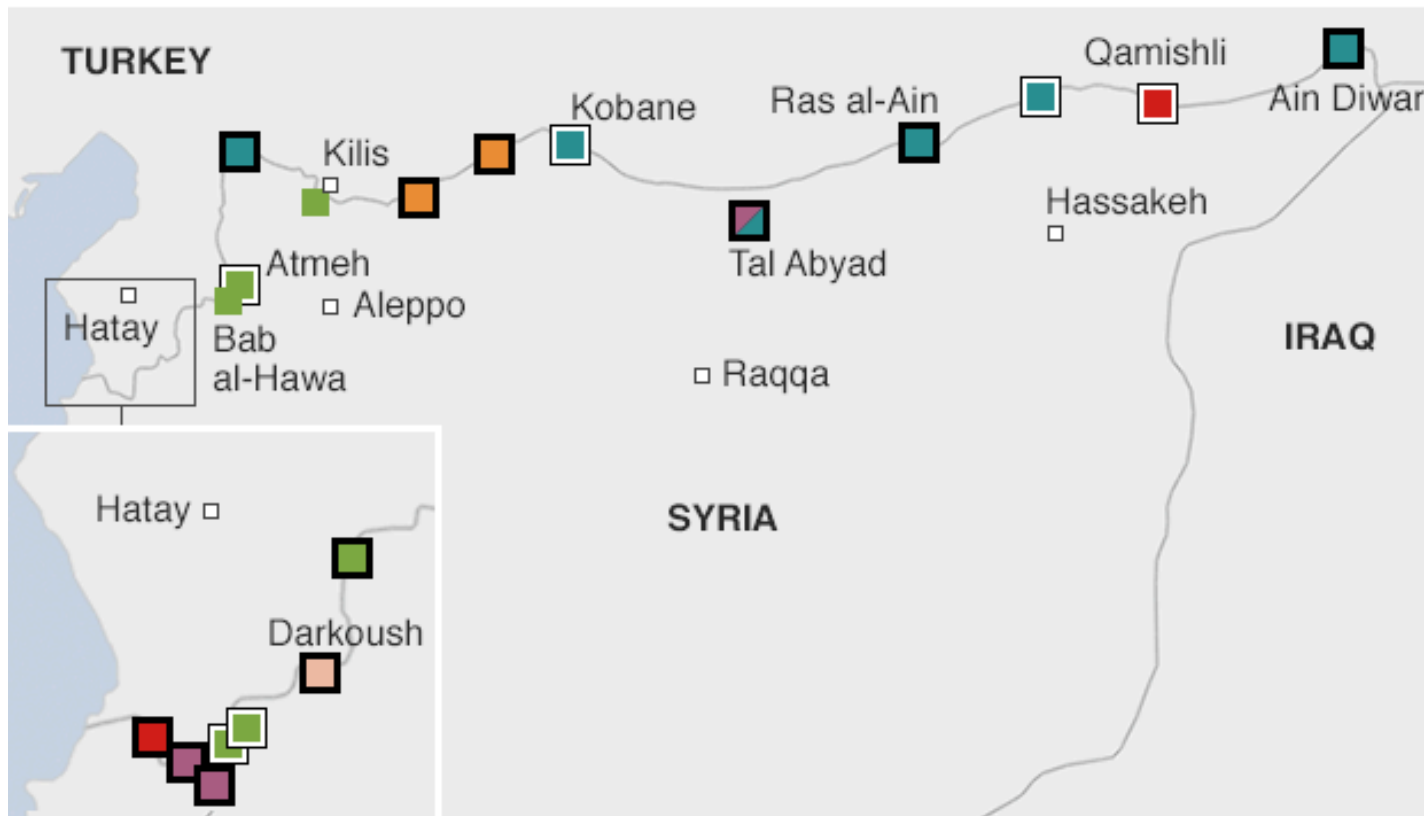
Control of Turkish–Syrian border: October 9. 2015

Turkey - Syria border crossings

Border status on 9 October 2015:  Open  Restricted  Closed

Groups controlling Syrian side:

 Syrian government  Free Syrian Army (FSA)  Islamic Front
 al-Nusra Front  Kurdish YPG militia  Islamic State

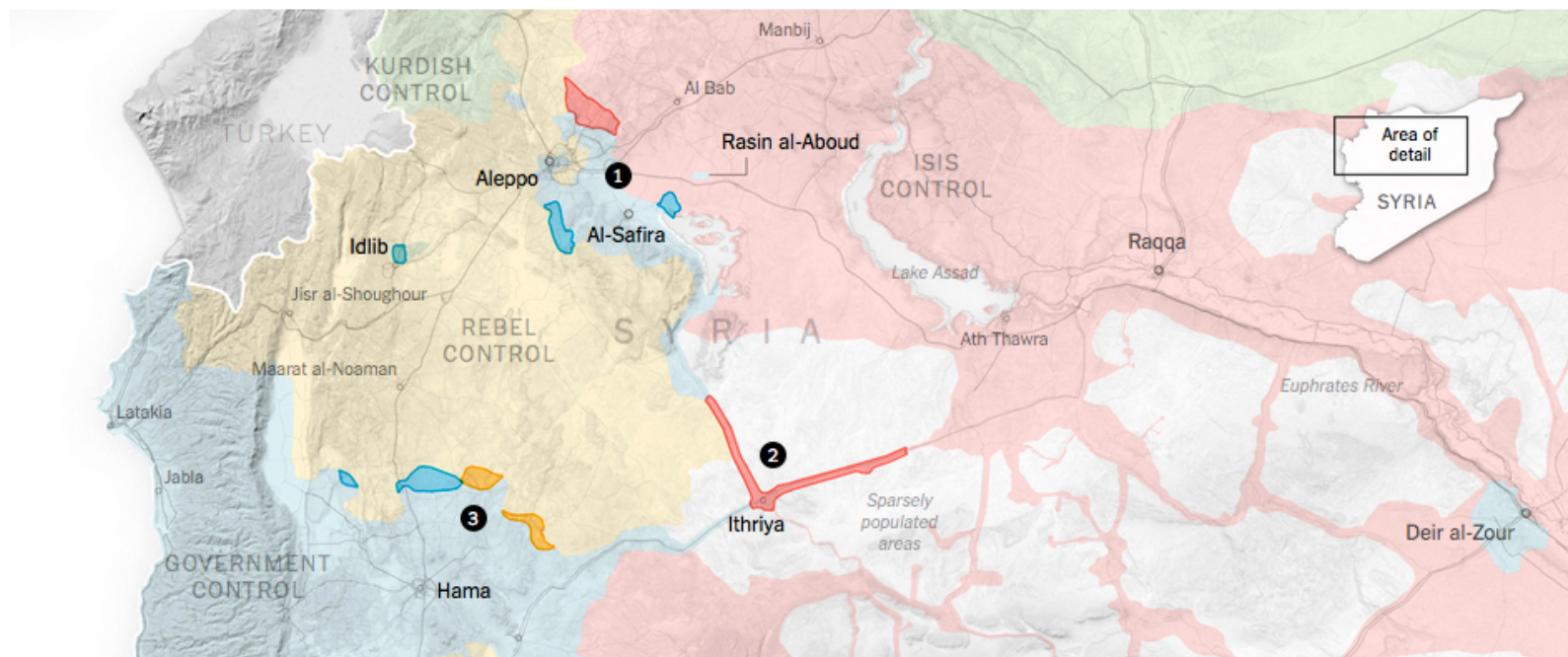


Source: Ocha

BBC

Ground Gains in Syria: 9/21 to 10.27.2015

Control and gains since Sept. 21: ■ ISIS ■ Government ■ Rebel



1 Aleppo

Government forces have made gains south and east of the city, as they build strategic depth around their Al-Safira stronghold and push closer to **Rasin al-Aboud**, an important air base that ISIS has surrounded for more than a year. Employing an often-used strategy, ISIS launched a counterattack in the north to draw government fighters away from the air base and gained some territory in the process.

2 Key Supply Routes

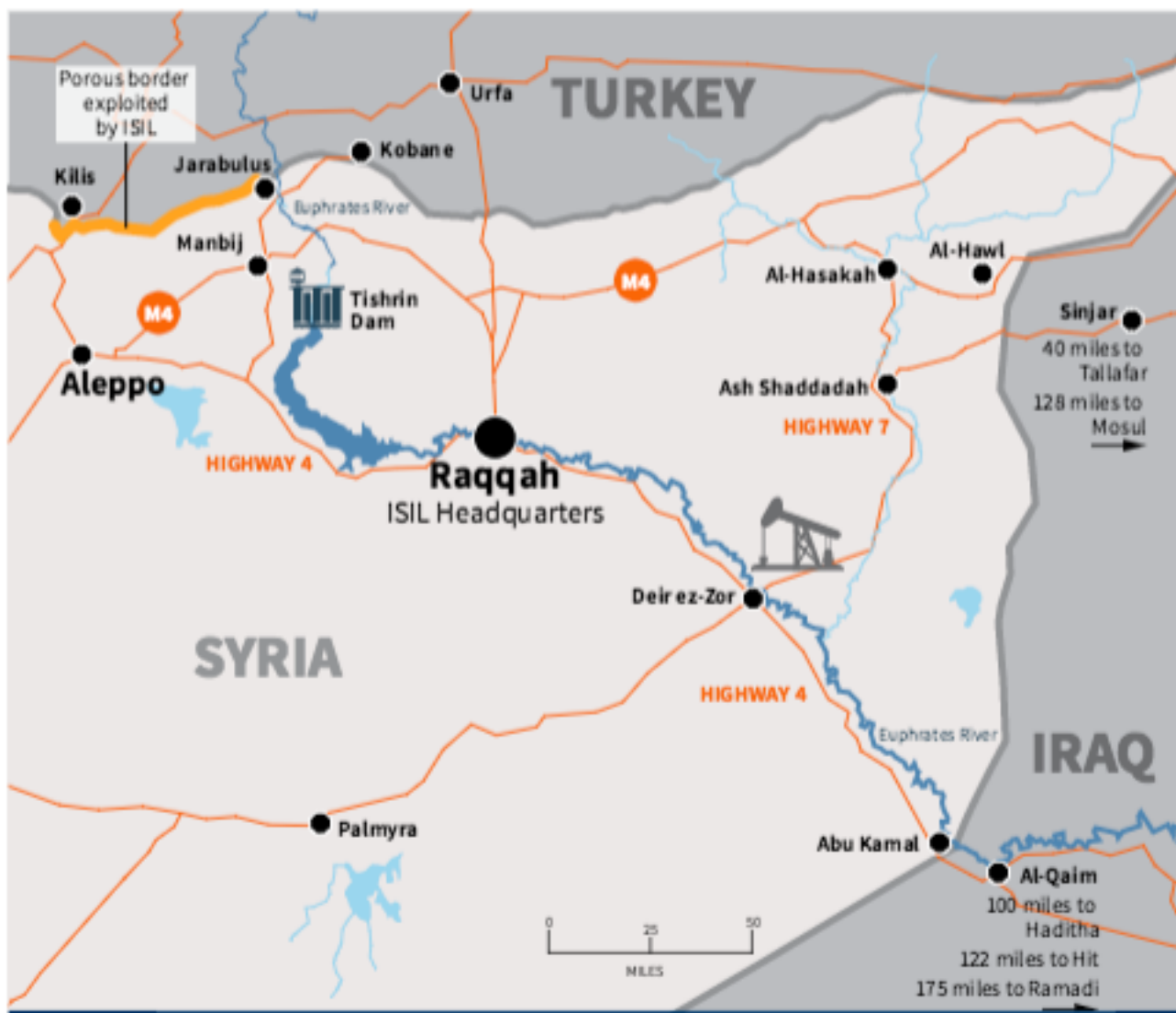
ISIS has gained control of a long stretch of road north of Ithriya. The road remains highly contested because it is the only overland route for supplying government fighters around Aleppo.

3 Between Idlib and Hama

Rebel and government forces continue to fight for territory along the front lines between Idlib and Hama. Small areas changed hands in October, but the government has yet to make significant advances.

By Tim Wallace/The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

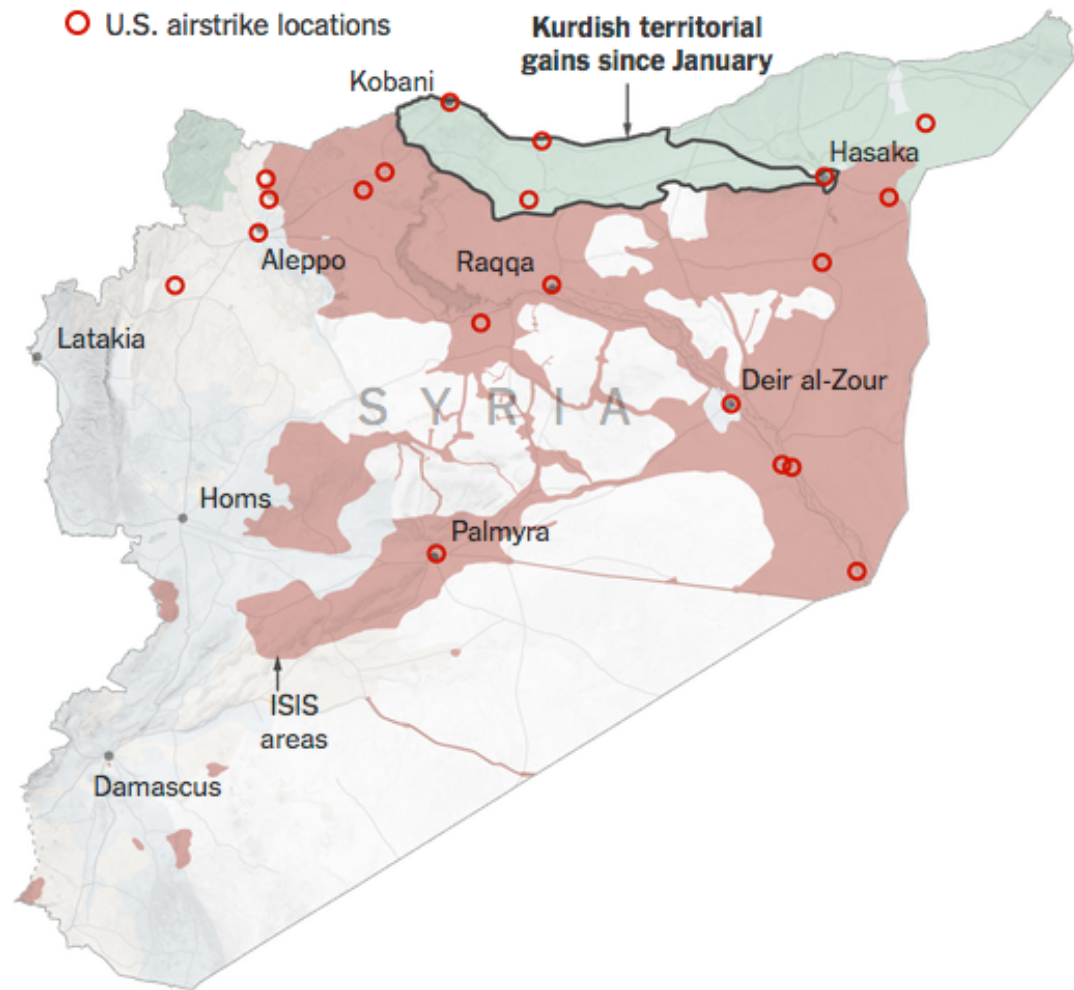
Locations of Counter ISIL Activity in Northeast Syria



Sources: Adam Entous, Gordon Lubold, and Dion Nessenbaum, "U.S. Urges Turkey to Seal Border," *The Wall Street Journal*, 11/27/2015; President Obama, "Press Conference by President Obama," OECD Centre, France, 12/1/2015, www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/12/01/press-conference-president-obama, accessed 1/6/2016.

Kurdish Expansion in Syria

Kobani has been the focal point of the U.S.-Kurdish battle with ISIS. American airstrikes have hit more than 1,000 targets there, almost half of all their strikes in Syria, helping the Kurds push back ISIS in the north.



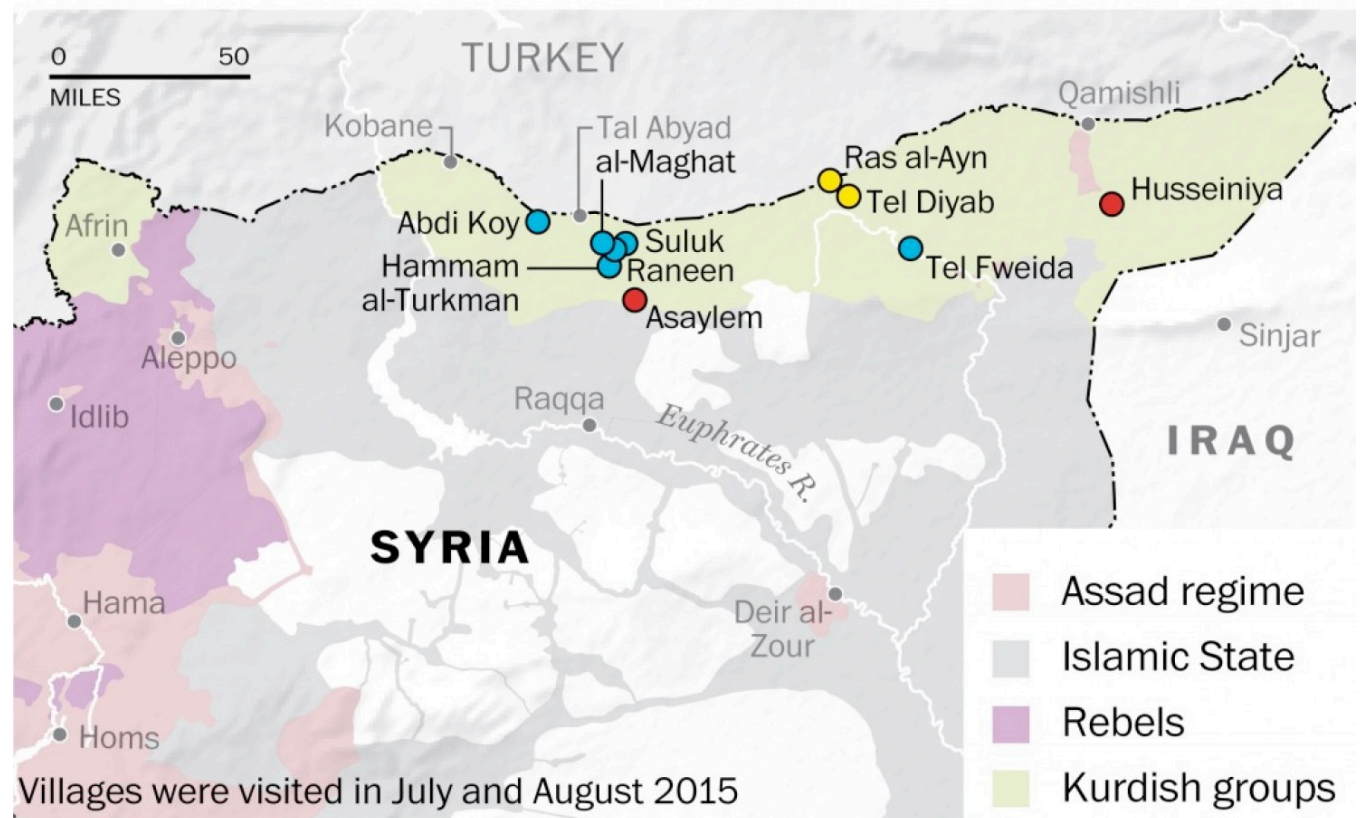
Sources: IHS Conflict Monitor (control areas); U.S. Central Command (airstrikes)

Source: Source: Pencana, Almukhtar, and Lai; *New York Times*, <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/10/16/world/middleeast/untangling-the-overlapping-conflicts-in-the-syrian-war.html>.

Syrian Kurds and Tensions with Syrian Arabs

Amnesty International visited 14 towns and villages in the Kurdish controlled areas of northern Syria. In ten of these villages, they found the local population had either had their homes demolished or faced either forced displacement as a group or targeted displacement.

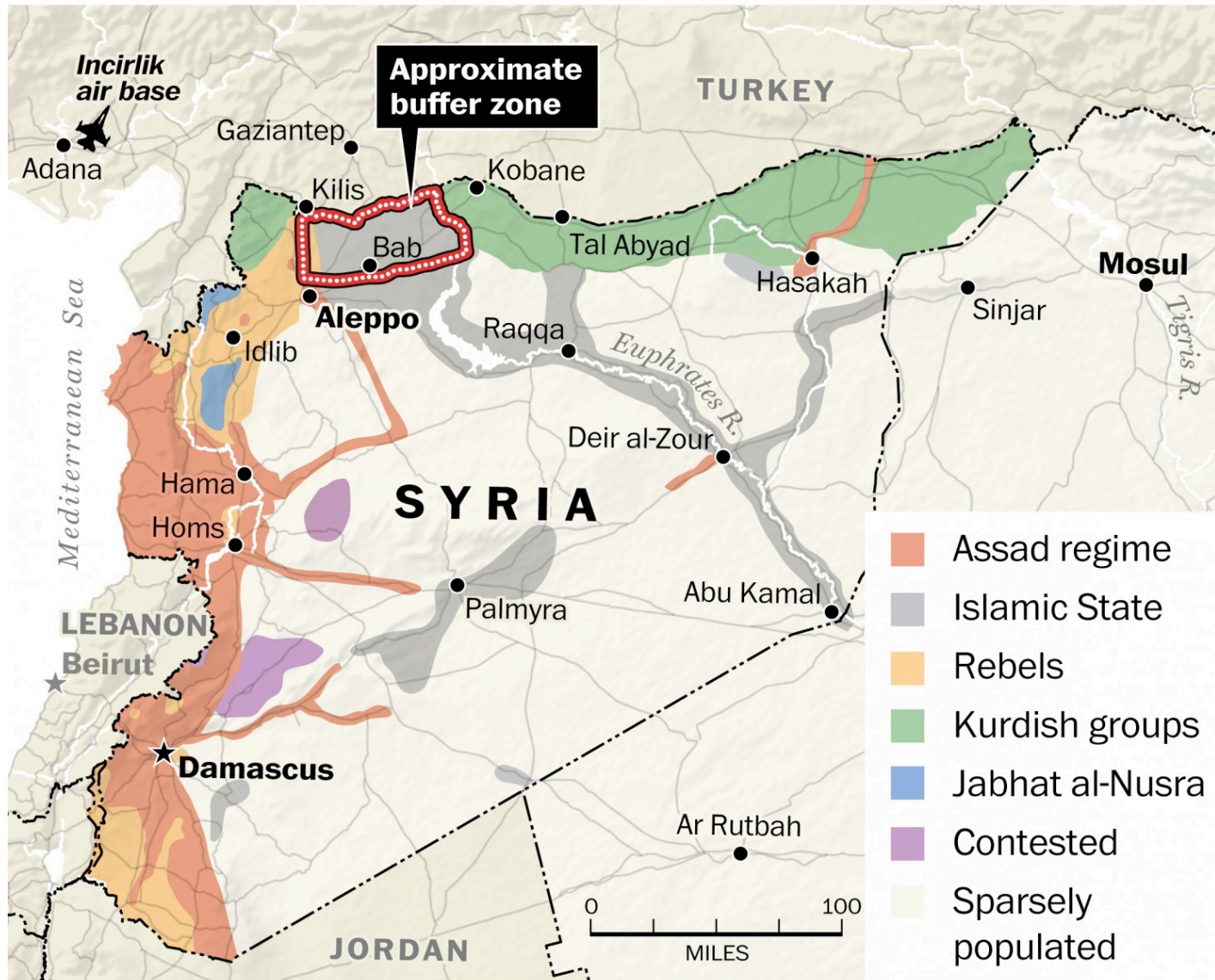
Abuse: ● Village demolished ● Forced displacement ● Targeted displacement



Source: Amnesty International; control area provided by Janes

THE WASHINGTON POST

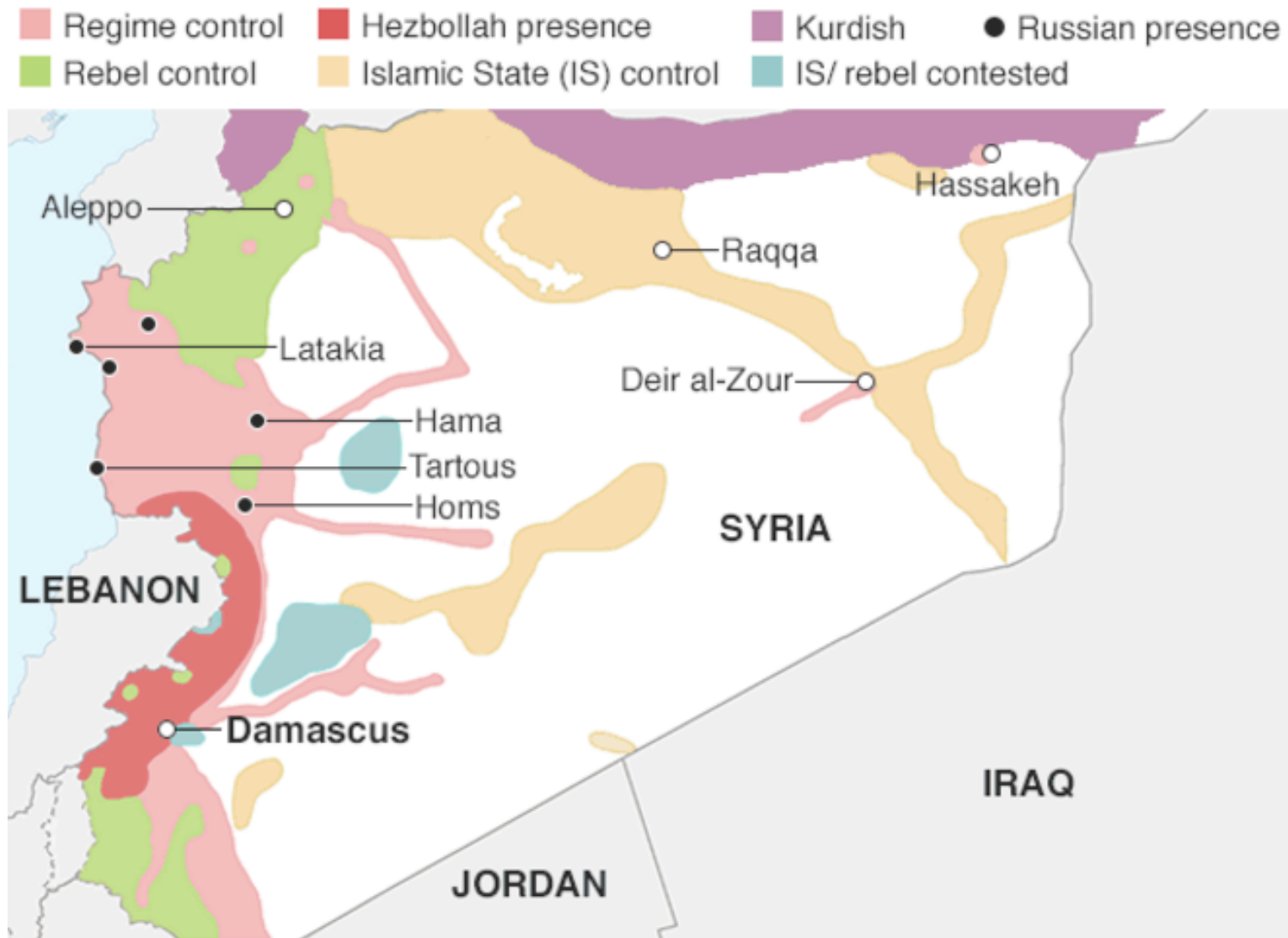
Buffer Zone Guesstimate



Sources: Institute for the Study of War, Hurriyet Daily News

THE WASHINGTON POST

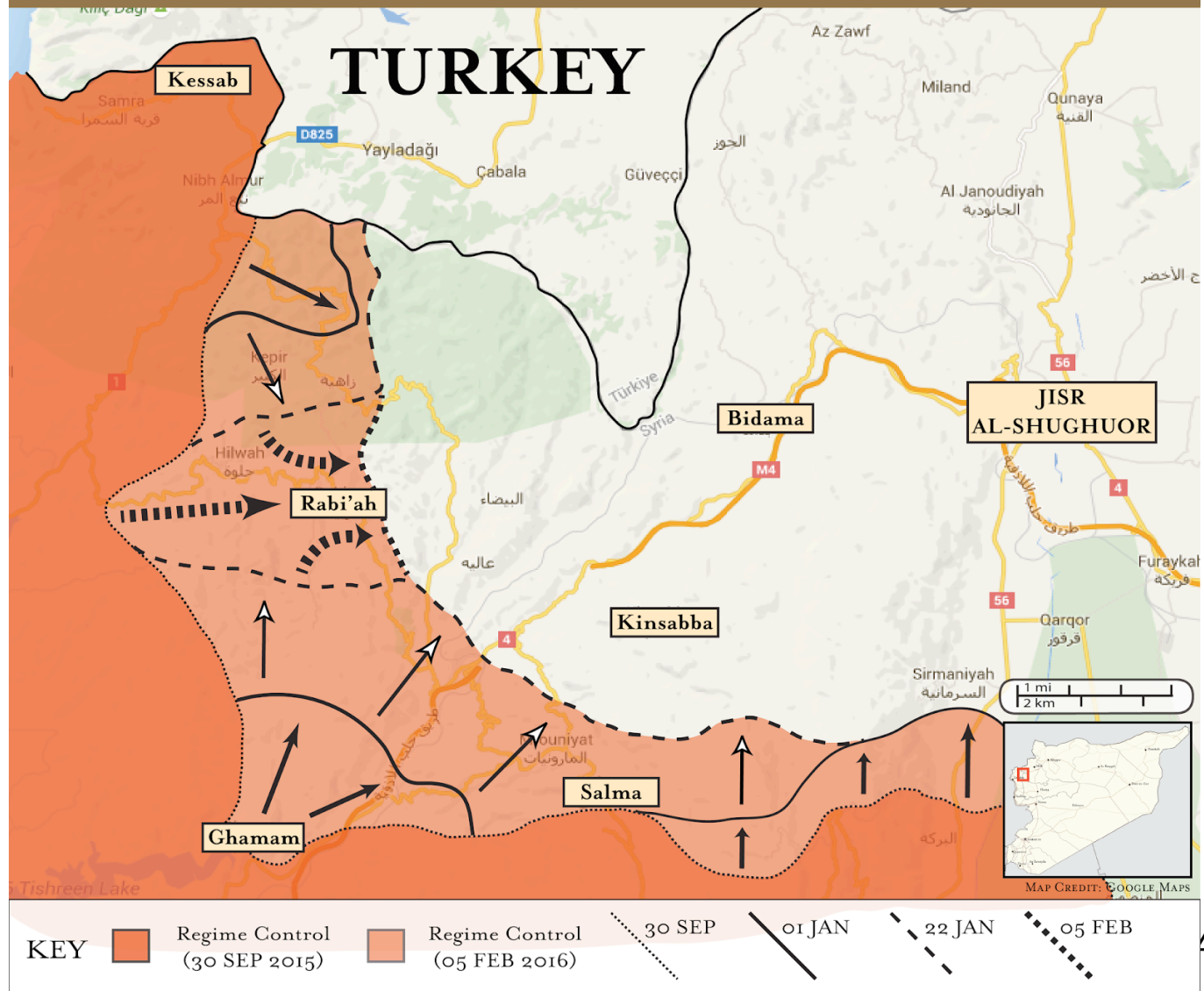
BBC/ISW Estimate of Zones of Control: 2.2016



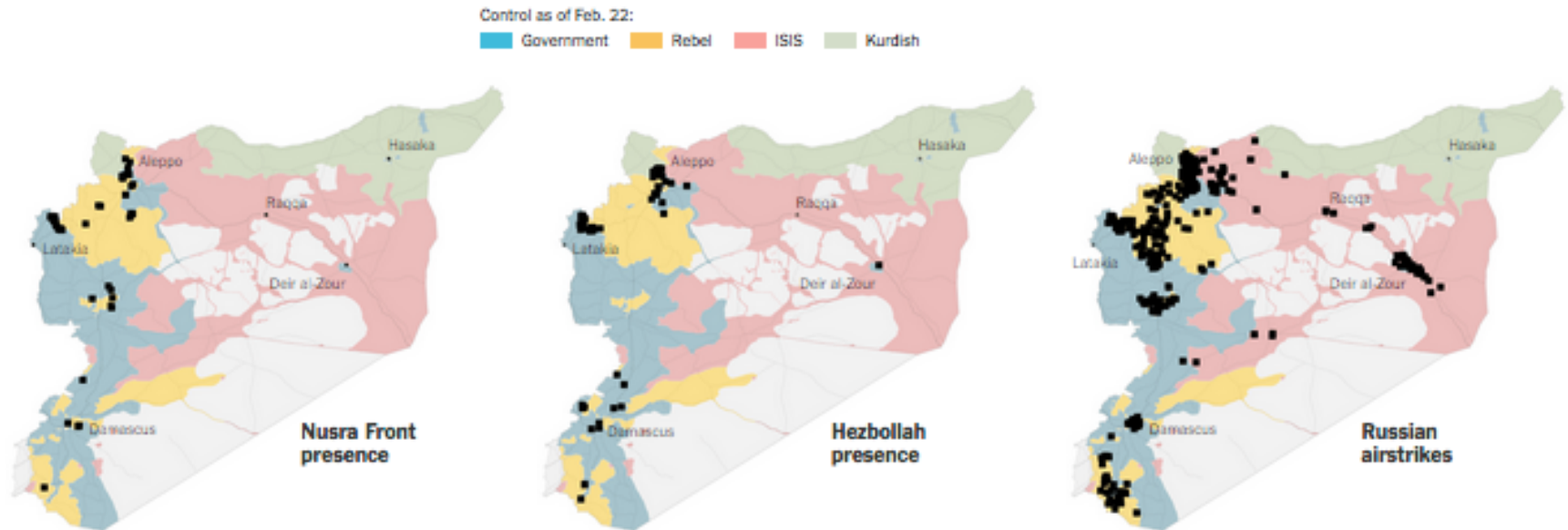
Source: ISW

The Campaign for Latakia Province: September 30, 2015 - February 5, 2016

ISW http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2016/02/assad-regime-gains-in-aleppo-alter.html?utm_source=Assad+Regime+Gains+in+Aleppo+Alter+Balance+of+Power+in+Northern+Syria+v2&utm_campaign=Assad+Regime+Gains+in+Aleppo+Alter+Balance+of+Power+in+Northern+Syria&utm_medium=email



NYT Estimate of Growing Intensity of War: February 2016



The Nusra Front is embedded in rebel-controlled areas. It recently became more active in parts of Aleppo as rebels welcomed their help against the government.

Hezbollah, the Lebanese militant group that is allied with Iran, fights alongside Syrian government forces and other Iranian-backed militias. Although its initial priority was to protect supply routes to Lebanon, Hezbollah has increased its presence near the Aleppo and Latakia fronts.

Russian airstrikes have been key to the Syrian government's rapid advances in both Aleppo and Latakia as it has bombarded insurgent areas primarily in the northwestern provinces. In one week, Russia conducted hundreds of airstrikes around the country.

Source: IHS Conflict Monitor. Nusra Front and Hezbollah presence data are based on reports of activity attributed to those groups.

Air War in Syria January 19- February 2, 2016

UK, Russian and US-led strikes in Syria

US-led coalition air strikes

UK

★ 19 Jan - 2 Feb 2016

★ 3 Dec 2015 - 18 Jan 2016

Other coalition forces

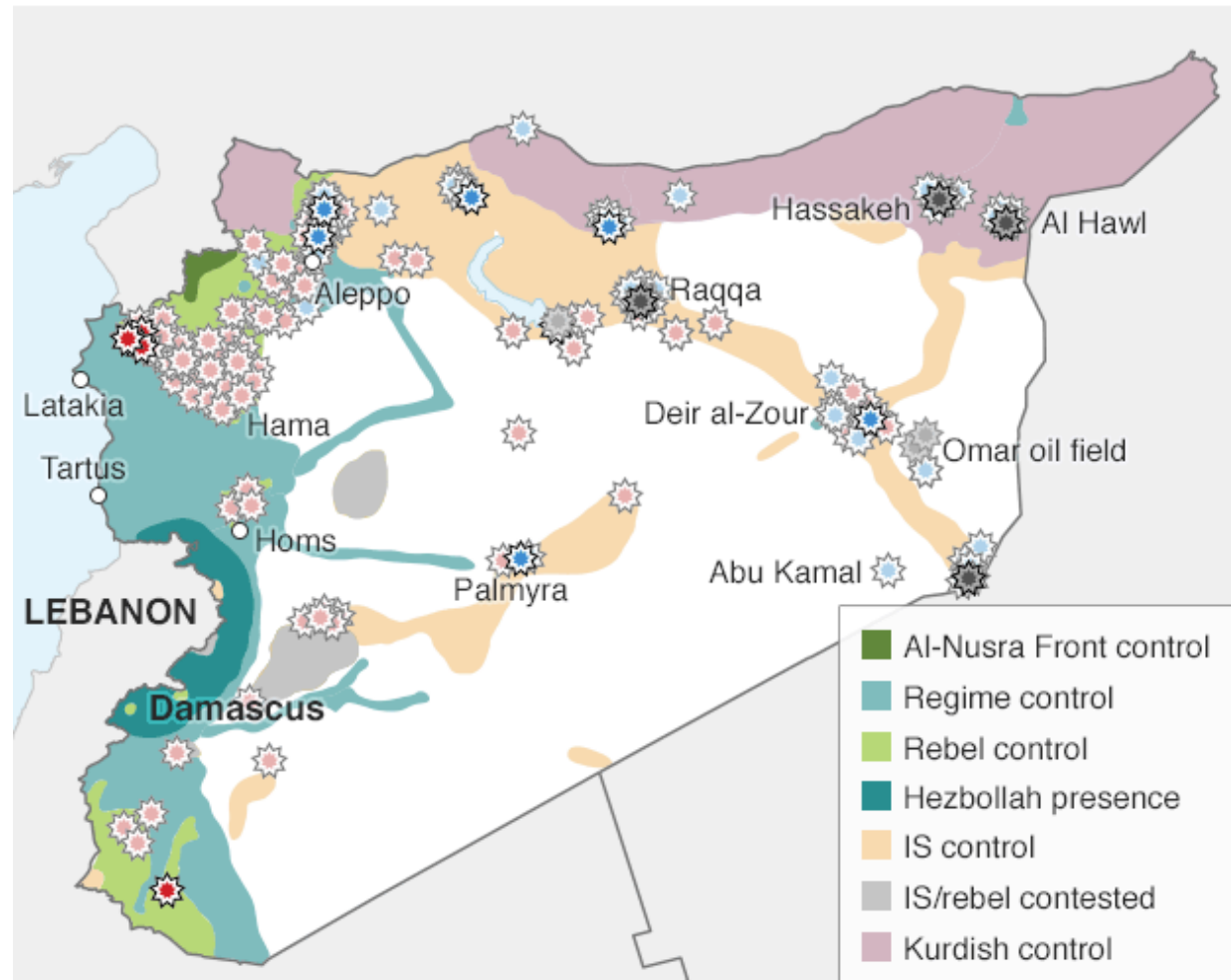
★ 28 Jan - 3 Feb 2016

★ 30 Sep 2015 - 27 Jan 2016

Russian air & cruise missile strikes

★ 26 Jan - 1 Feb 2016

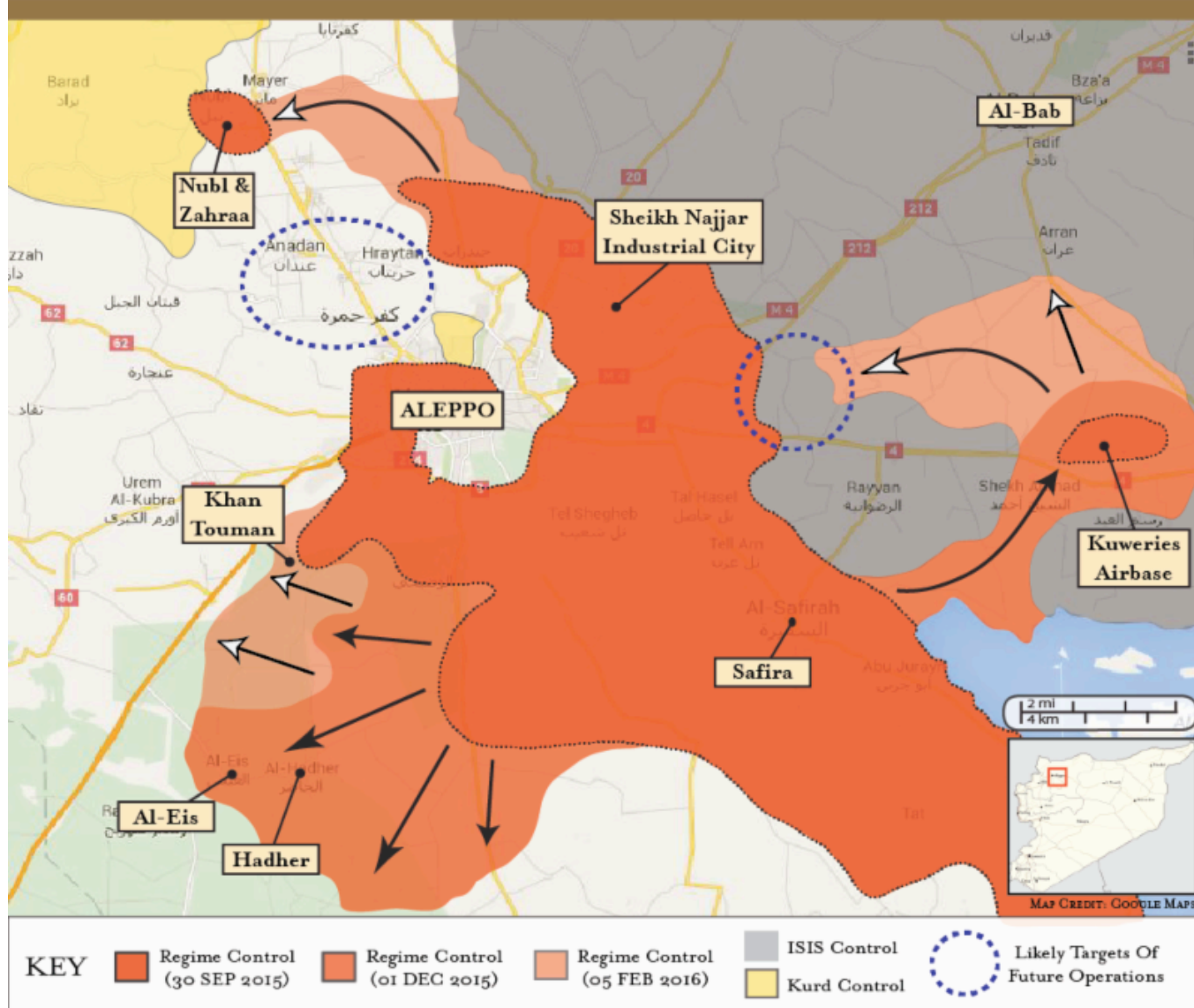
★ 30 Sep 2015 - 25 Jan 2016



Source: Institute for the Study of War, US military, UK MoD, French Defence Ministry. Locations may have multiple strikes

BBC,
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-27838034>.

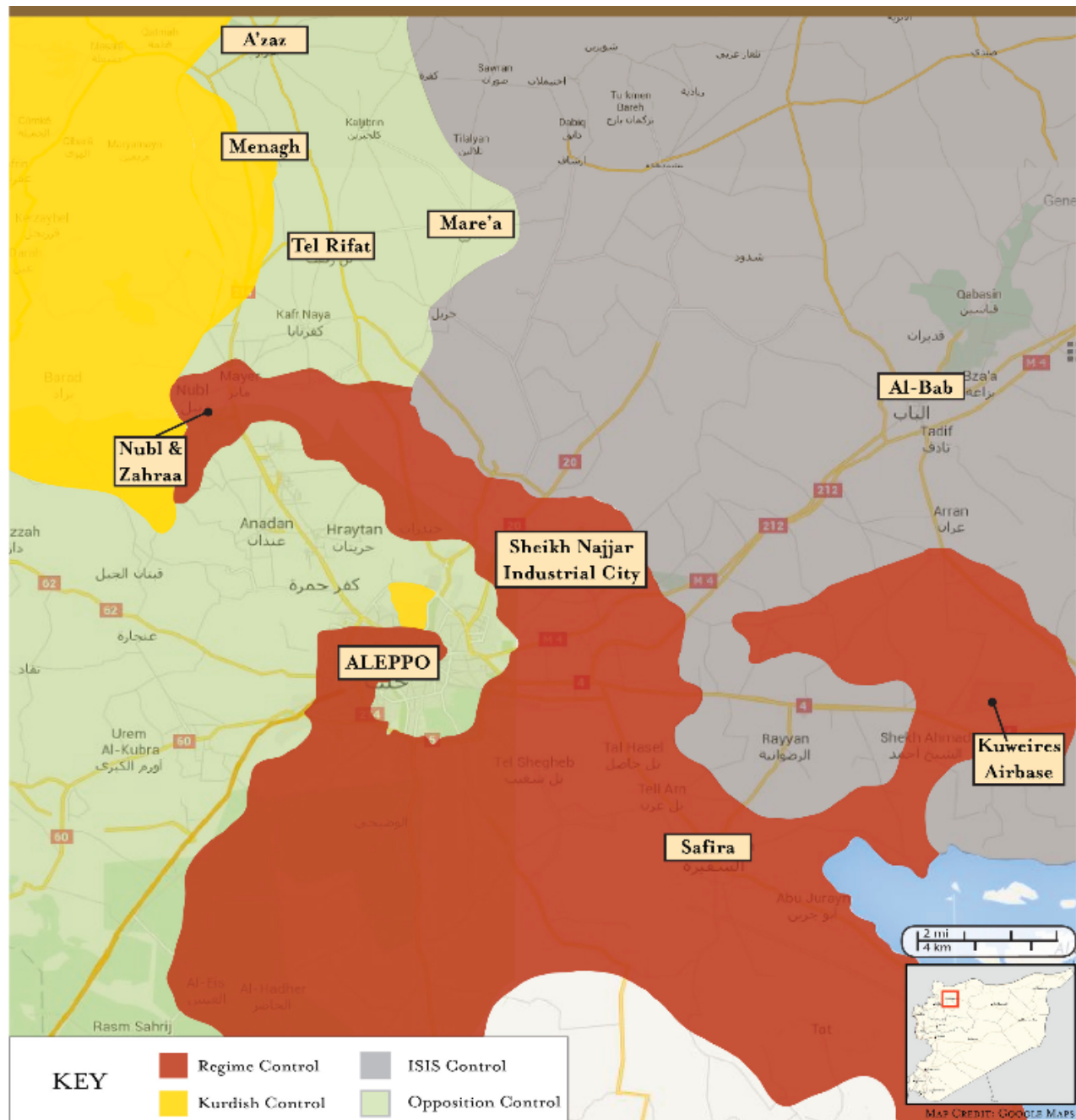
The Campaign for Aleppo: September 30, 2015 - February 5, 2016



ISW, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/152b232cf353b332>.

ISW Estimate of Situation Around Aleppo February 13, 2016

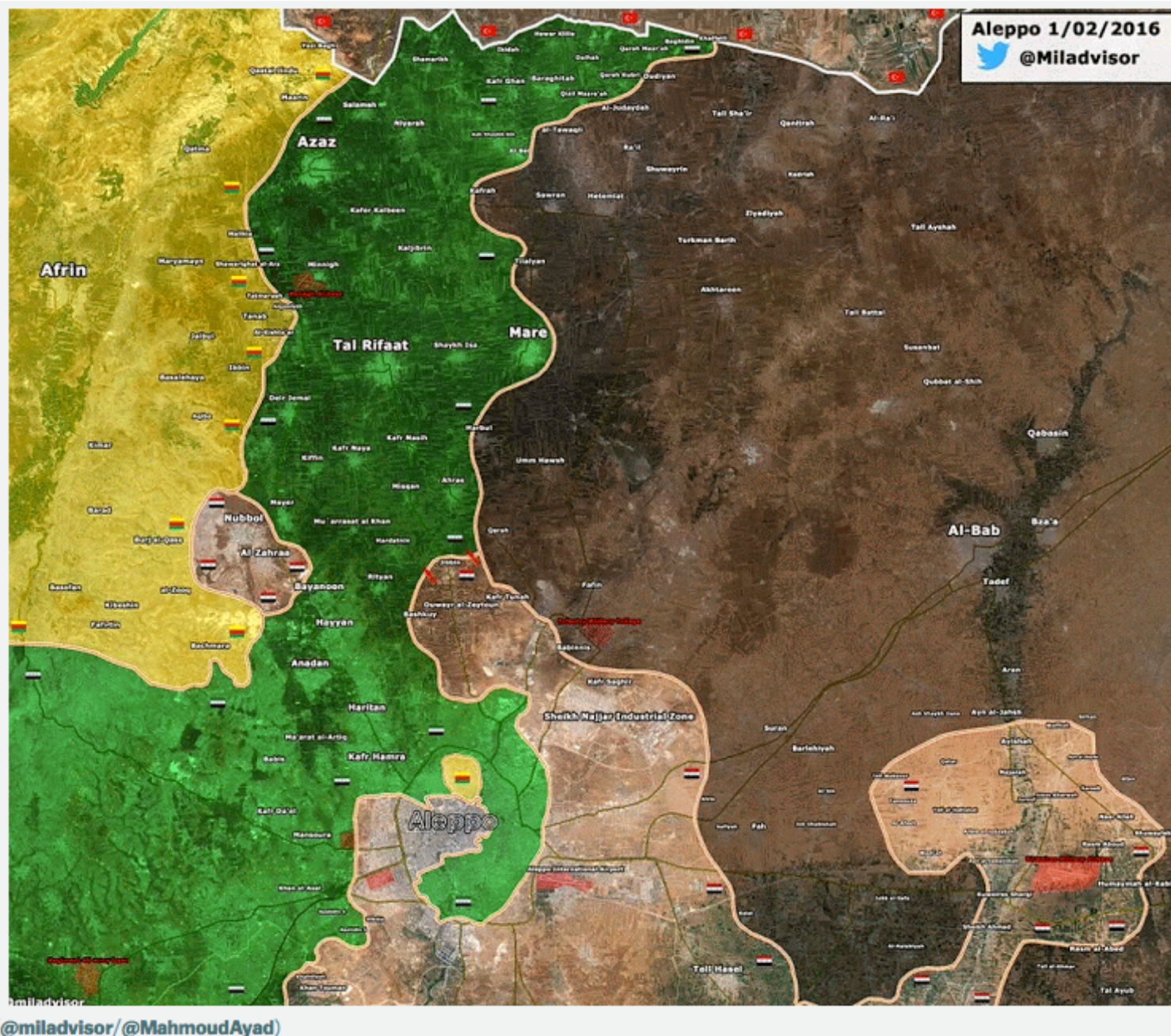
Source: ISW,
http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Syrian%20Armed%20Opposition%20Forces%20in%20Aleppo_0.pdf



Miladvisor, Mahmoud Ayad Estimate of Situation Around Aleppo February 1, 2016

The rebels (in green) are clearly losing ground to the government (in tan). ISIS (in black) is also losing territory, while the Kurds (in yellow) are taking advantage of real weakness to seize some of their nearby territory:

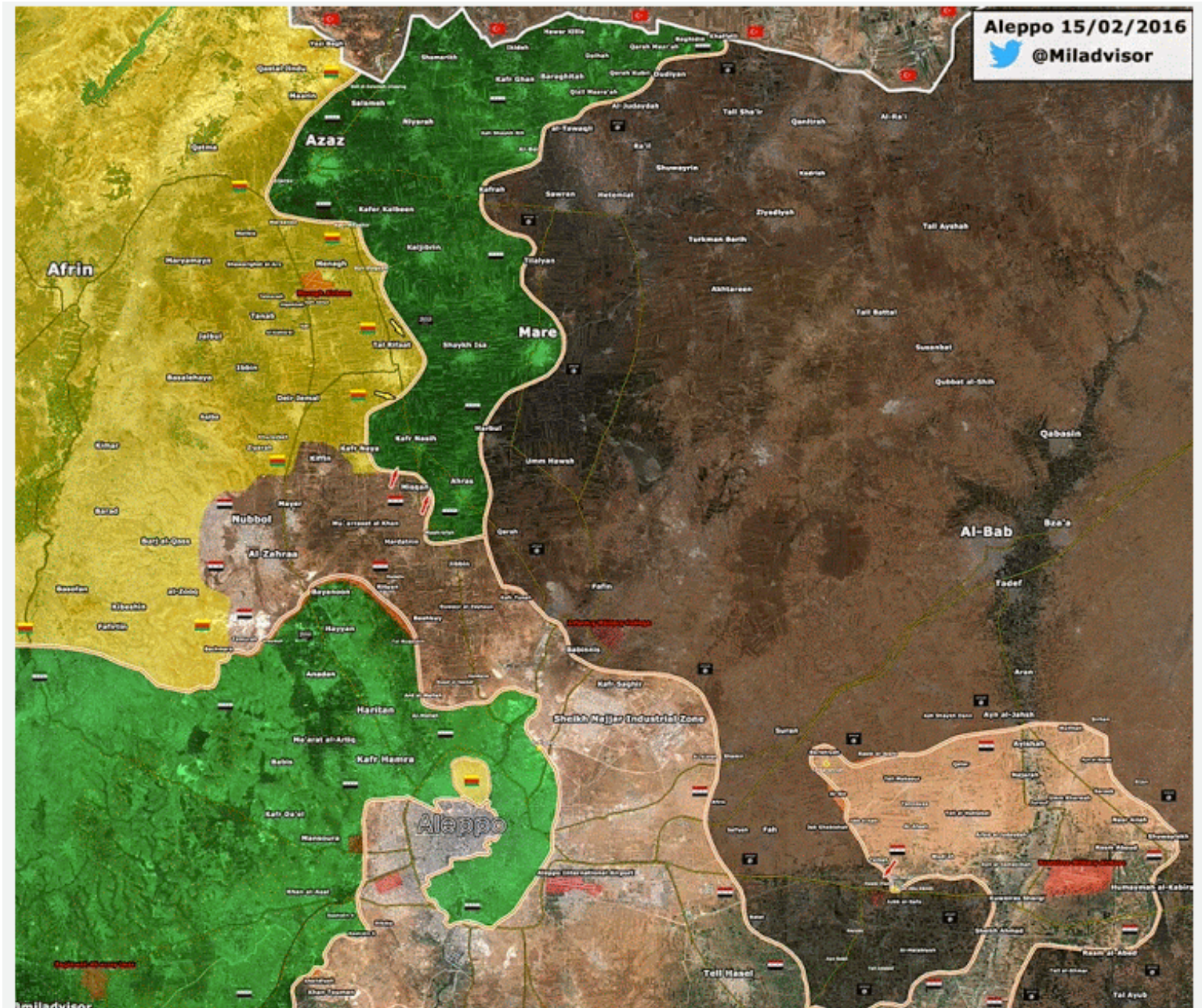
Source: Vox World,
<http://www.vox.com/2016/2/16/11020140/russia-syria-bombing-maps>



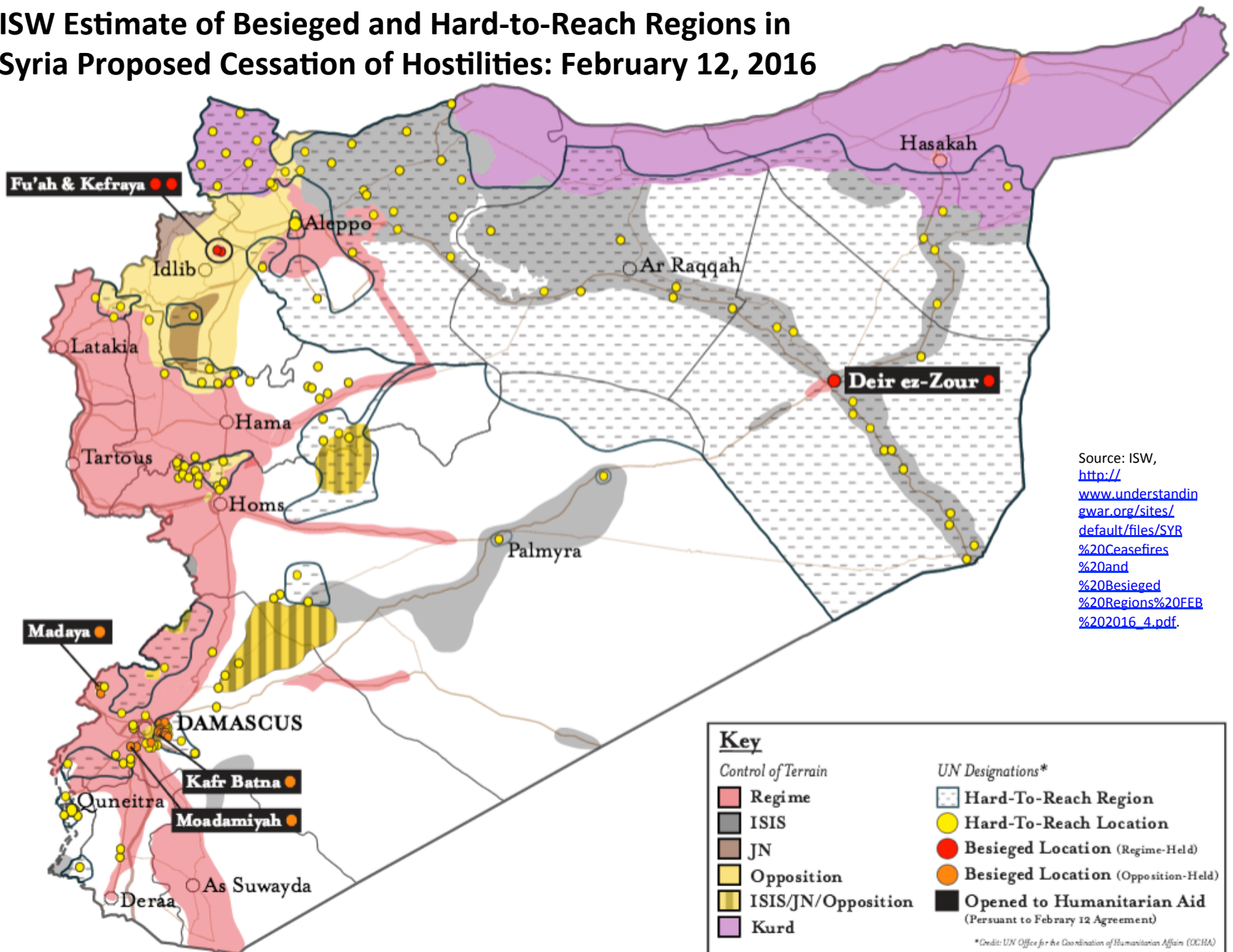
Miladvisor, Mahmoud Ayad Estimate of Situation Around Aleppo February 15, 2016

The rebels (in green) are clearly losing ground to the government (in tan). ISIS (in black) is also losing territory, while the Kurds (in yellow) are taking advantage of real weakness to seize some of their nearby territory:

Source: Vox World,
<http://www.vox.com/2016/2/16/11020140/russia-syria-bombing-maps>



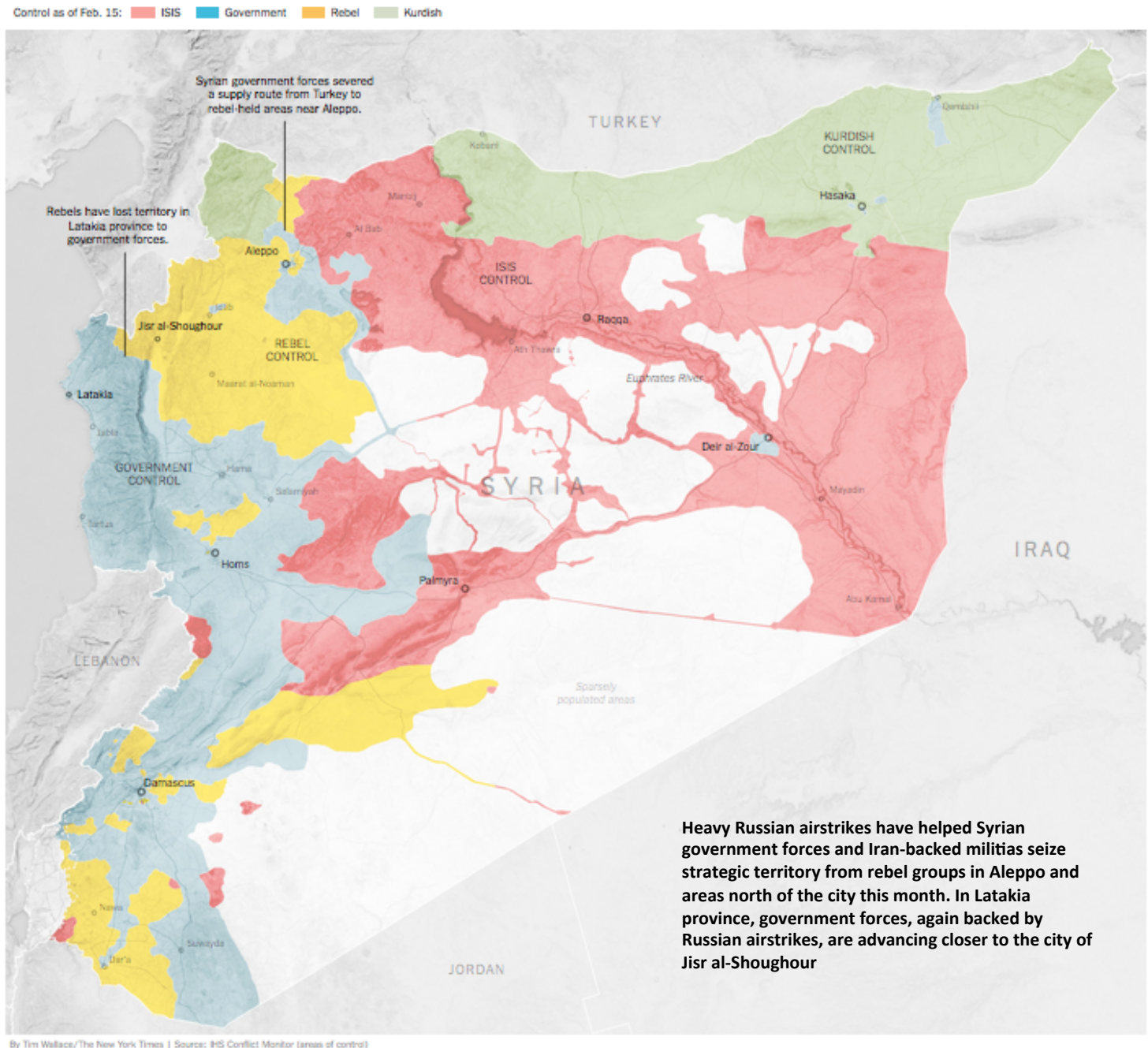
ISW Estimate of Besieged and Hard-to-Reach Regions in Syria Proposed Cessation of Hostilities: February 12, 2016



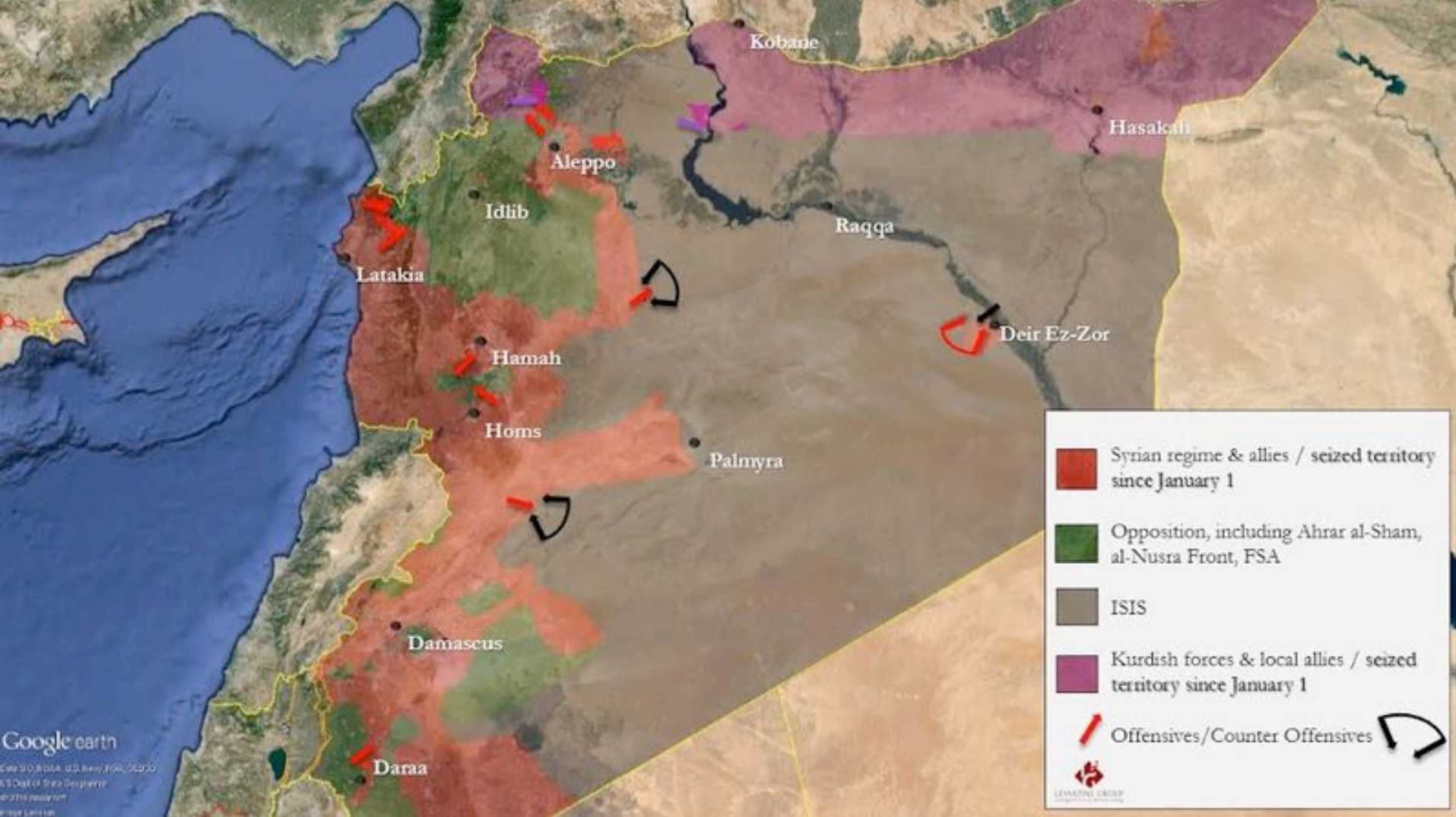
Source: ISW,
http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/SYR%20Ceasefires%20and%20Besieged%20Regions%20FEB%202016_4.pdf.

NYT Estimate of Zones of Control: 15.2.2016

NYT, <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/09/29/world/middleeast/100000003948336.app.html?nytap=ipad>, 29.2.2016

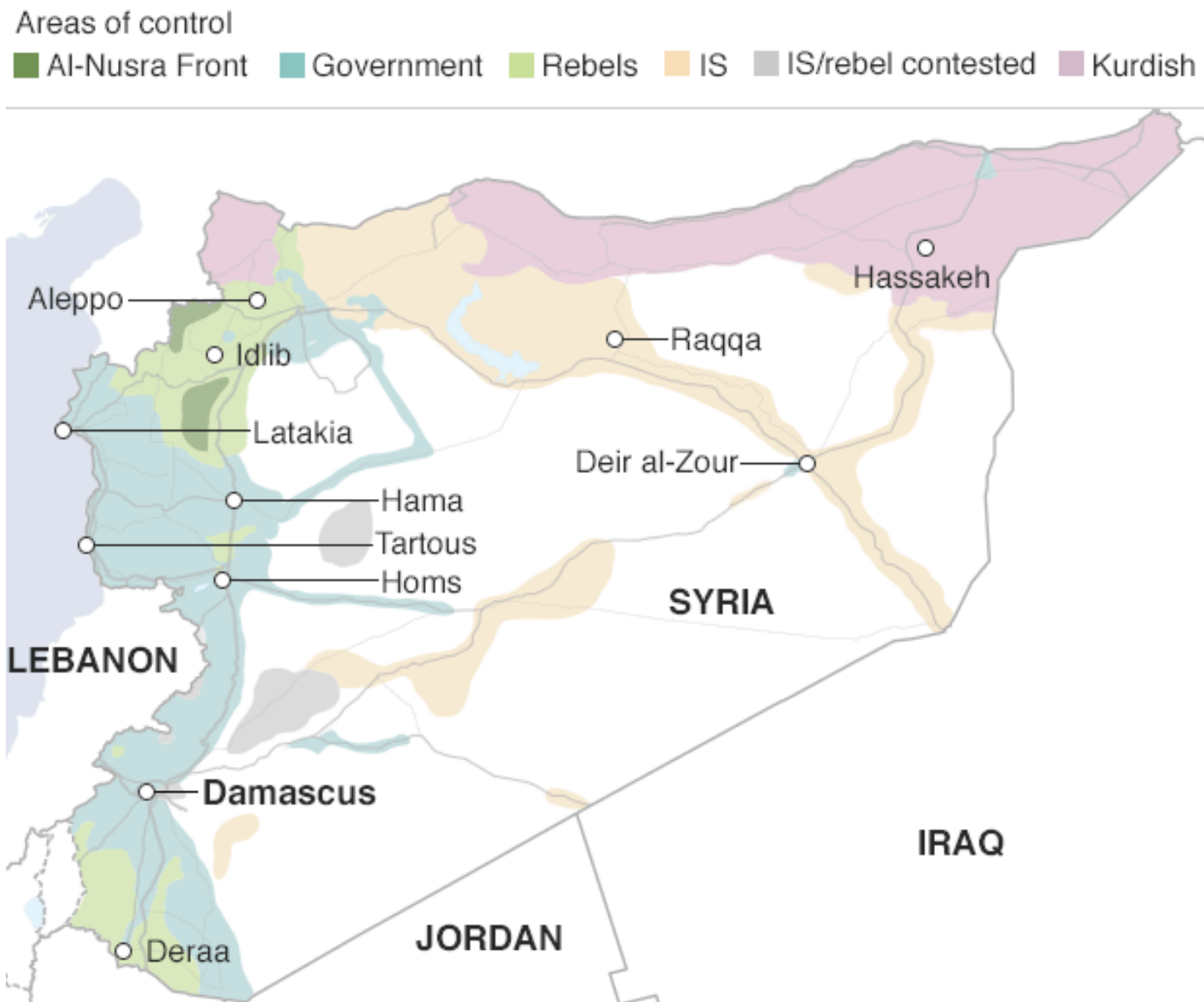


Horowitz and the Levantine Group Estimate of Assad Regime Gains and Offensives Hostilities: February 15, 2016, 2016



Source: Vox World, [Zack Beauchamp](http://www.vox.com/2016/2/16/11020140/russia-syria-bombing-maps), <http://www.vox.com/2016/2/16/11020140/russia-syria-bombing-maps>

BBC/ISW
Estimate of
Zones of
Control at
Cessation of
Hostilities: 1
March 2016

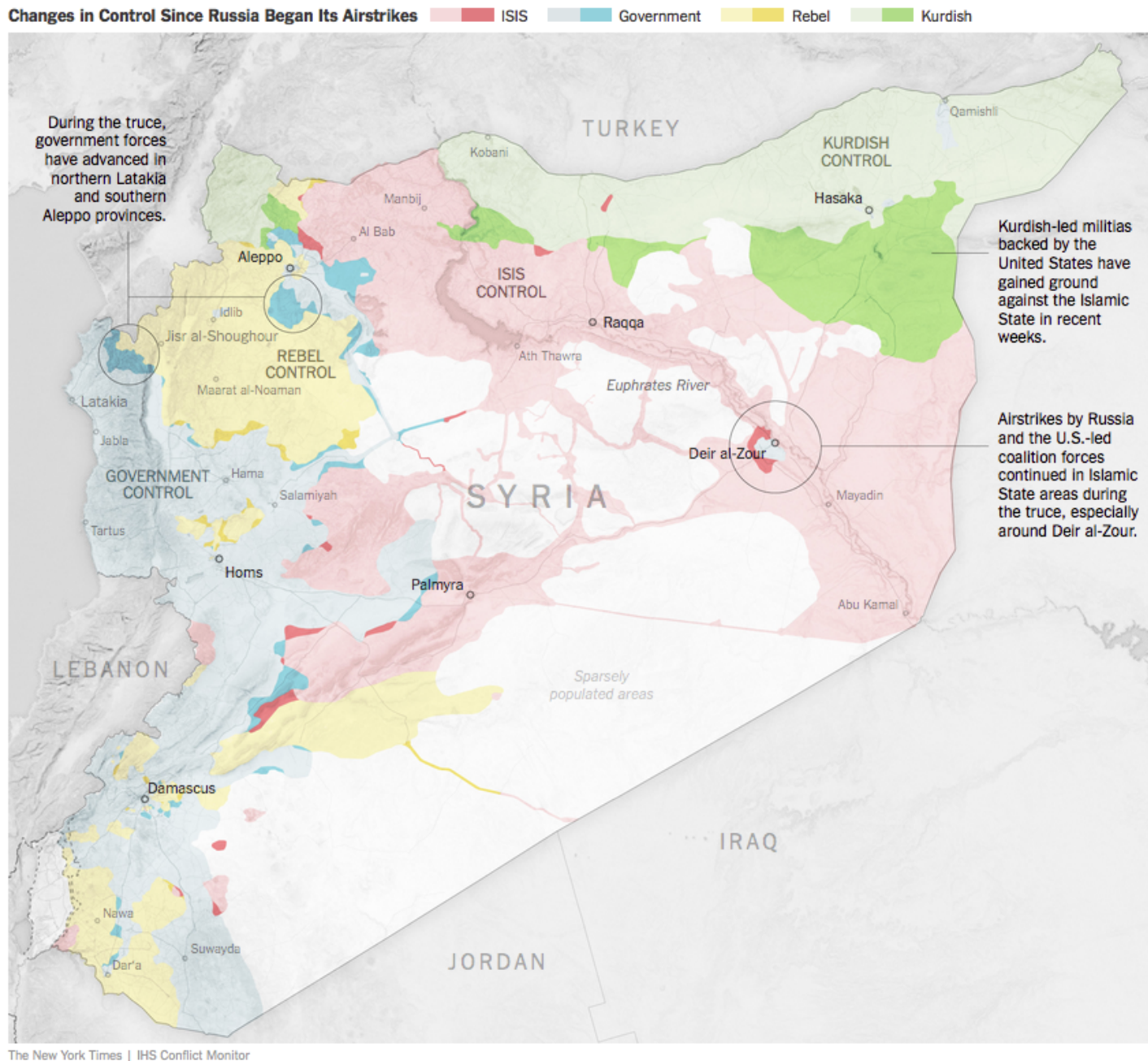


Source: BBC,, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-35642639>,

Source: ISW

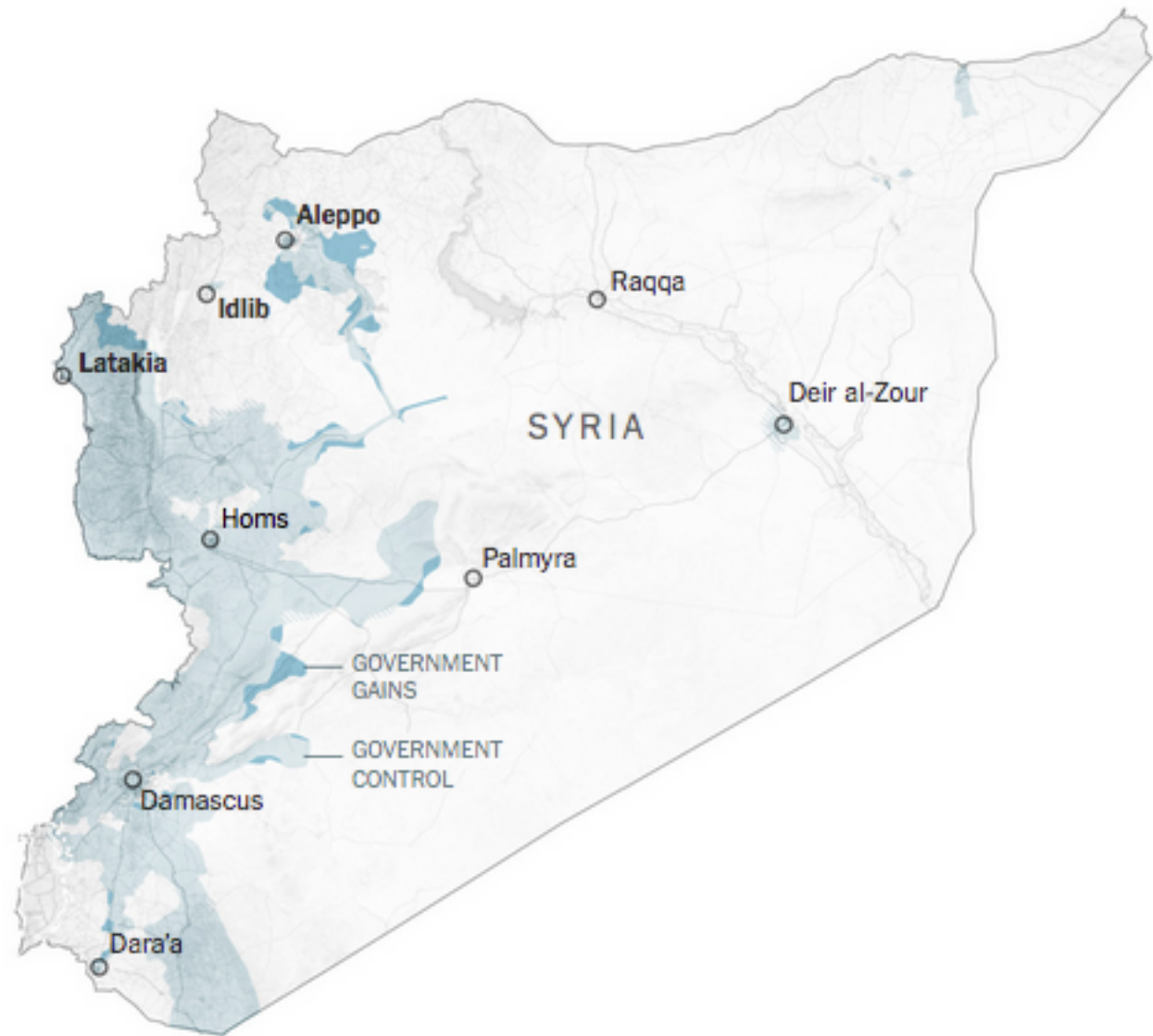
BBC

Changes in Control Since Russia Began Its Airstrikes Since Russian Intervention Began: 15 March 2016



Source: New York Times,
<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/13/world/middleeast/syria-control-isis-maps-cease-fire-civil-war-five-years.html>

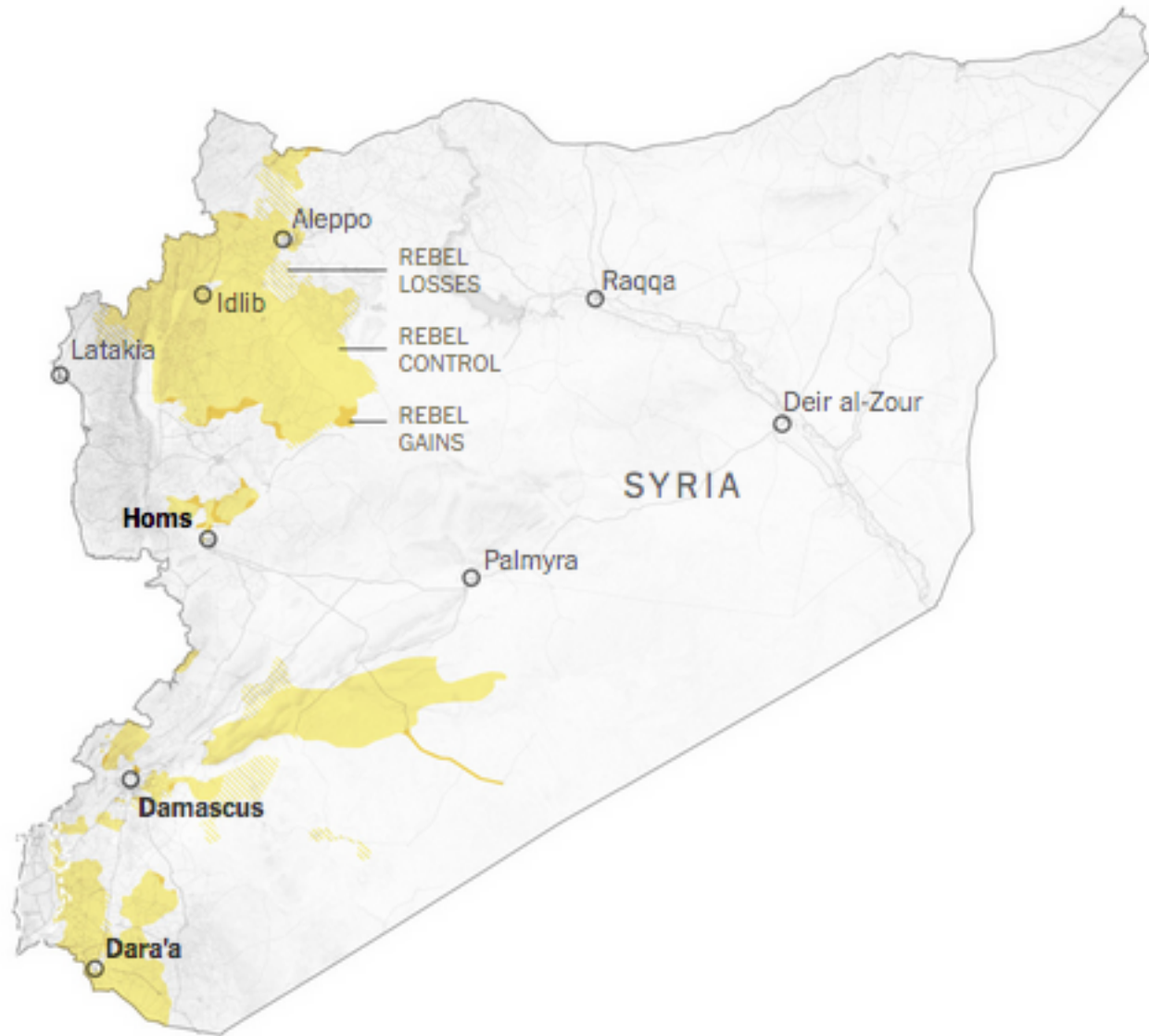
**Changes in
Pro-Assad
Control Since
Russian
Intervention
Began: 15
March 2016**



Source: New York Times,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/2016/03/13/
world/middleeast/syria-
control-isis-maps-cease-
fire-civil-war-five-
years.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/13/world/middleeast/syria-control-isis-maps-cease-fire-civil-war-five-years.html)

The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

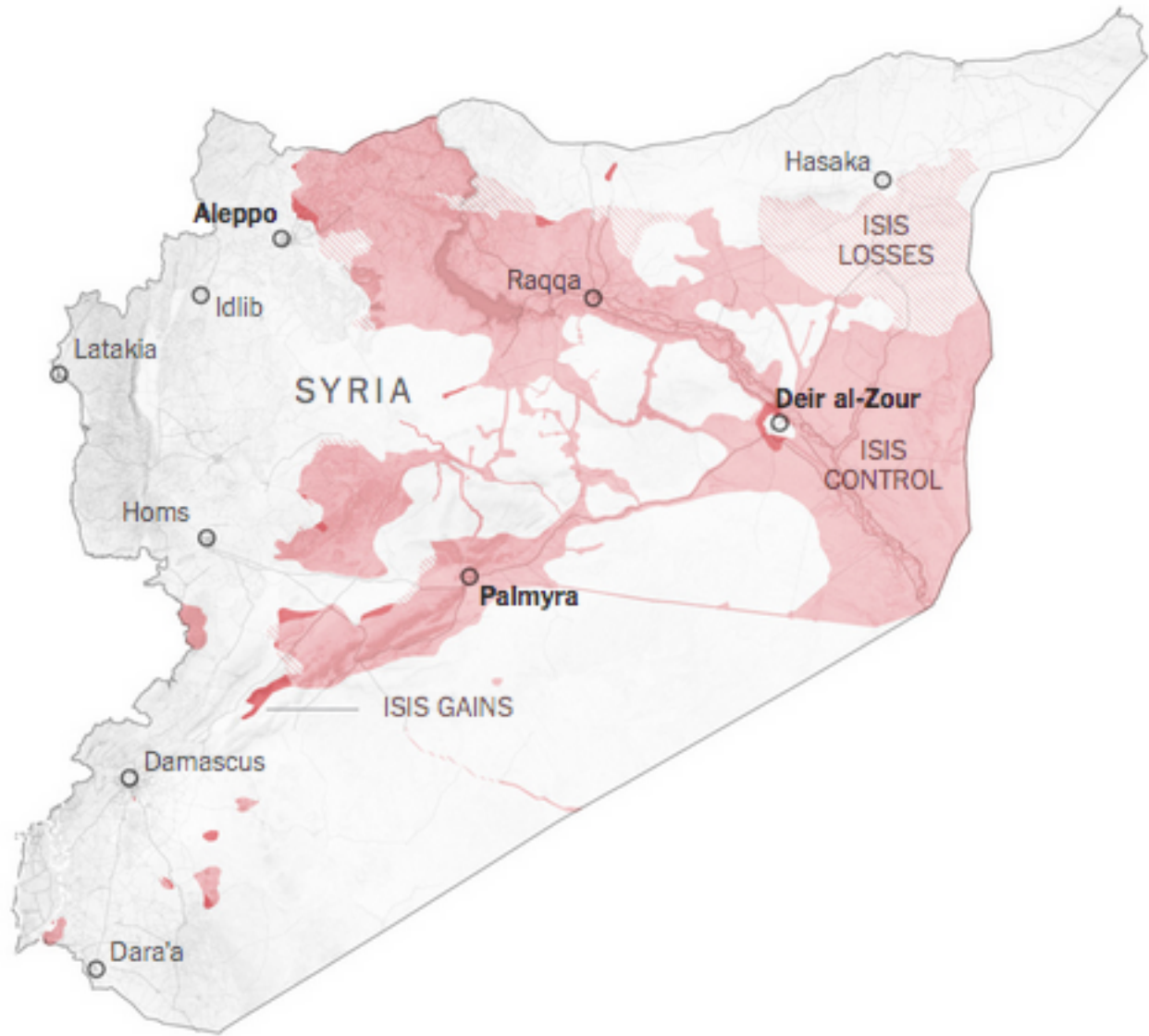
**Changes in
Arab Rebel
Control Since
Russian
Intervention
Began: 15
March 2016**



Source: New York Times,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/2016/03/13/
world/middleeast/syria-
control-isis-maps-cease-
fire-civil-war-five-
years.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/13/world/middleeast/syria-control-isis-maps-cease-fire-civil-war-five-years.html)

The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

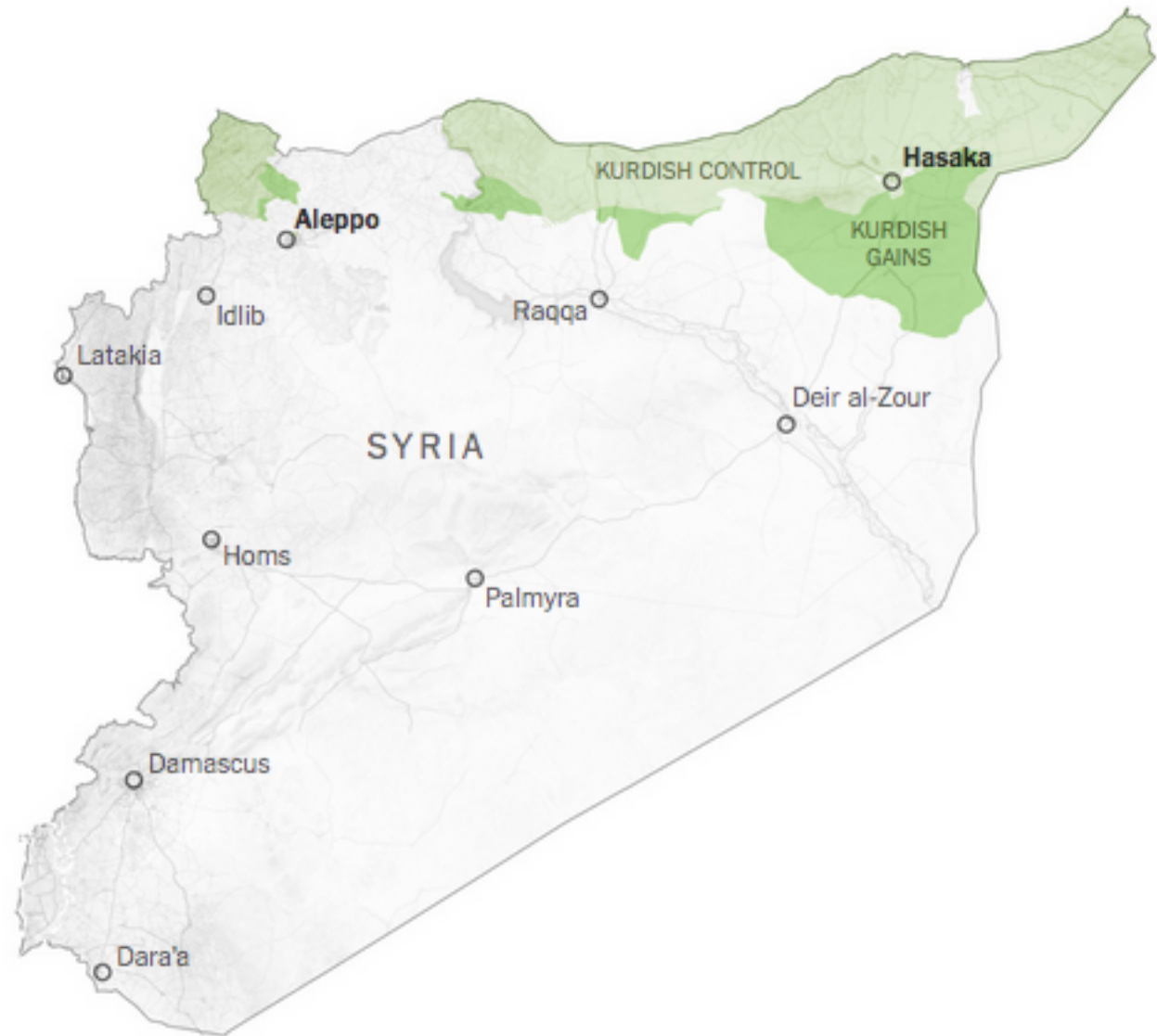
**Changes in
ISIS
Control Since
Russian
Intervention
Began: 15
March 2016**



Source: New York Times,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/2016/03/13/
world/middleeast/syria-
control-isis-maps-cease-
fire-civil-war-five-
years.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/13/world/middleeast/syria-control-isis-maps-cease-fire-civil-war-five-years.html)

The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

**Changes in
Kurdish
Control Since
Russian
Intervention
Began: 15
March 2016**



The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

Source: New York Times,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/2016/03/13/
world/middleeast/syria-
control-isis-maps-cease-
fire-civil-war-five-
years.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/13/world/middleeast/syria-control-isis-maps-cease-fire-civil-war-five-years.html)

Air Strikes and the Russian Role in Syria

The Russian Build Up: 10/2015 - I

- **Expanding Russian port facilities in naval base at Tartus and expanding an airfield south of Latakia into an air base.**
- **New construction at the Assad International Airport in Latakia, and soon after, satellite imagery confirmed the presence of Russian T-90 tanks, artillery and large transport aircraft at the airfield.**
- **Deployed 4 Su-30SM fighters, 12 Su-24M2 strike fighters, 6 Su-34 modern strike fighters, 12 Su-25 close support fighters, and Pchela-1T UAVs.**
- **Deployed 14 helicopters — Mi-24 Hind gunships and Mi-17 Hip transport helicopters.**
- **Start air strikes on 30.9.15.**
- **Providing R-166-0.5 (ultra) high-frequency signals (HF/VHF) vehicles with jam-resistant voice and data communications which have been seen driving through Syria.**
- **An unknown number of new artillery weapons, reportedly 152mm systems.**
- **Deploying six or more T-90 main battle tanks, 35 or more new BTR-82A/B wheeled AFVs with 30mm cannon turrets , and an unknown number of Russian Humvee equivalent.**
- **Deploying prefabricated housing for up to 2,000.**
- **Deploying at least two unit sets of SA-22 land-based air defense systems.**
- **Possibly deploying 200 marines and housing for as many as 1,500 personnel at the airfield near the Assad family's ancestral home.**

The Russian Build Up: 10/2015 - II

Russian sea and air assets move into Syria

The Russian Defense Ministry last month announced the deployment of ships from its Black Sea Fleet to the eastern Mediterranean Sea to carry out military drills. Included were:

1 Cruiser (Moskva)



1 Destroyer (Smetlivy)



2 Frigates

(Pytlivy and Ladny)



Russia has deployed a variety of military aircraft to Bassel al-Assad International Airport in Latakia, including:

4 Su-34 Fullback fighter-bombers



12 Su-24 Fencer attack aircraft



12 Su-25 Frogfoot close-air-support aircraft



Other aircraft at the airport in Latakia:

4 Su-30 Flanker multi-role fighters



12+ Mi-24 Hind attack helicopters



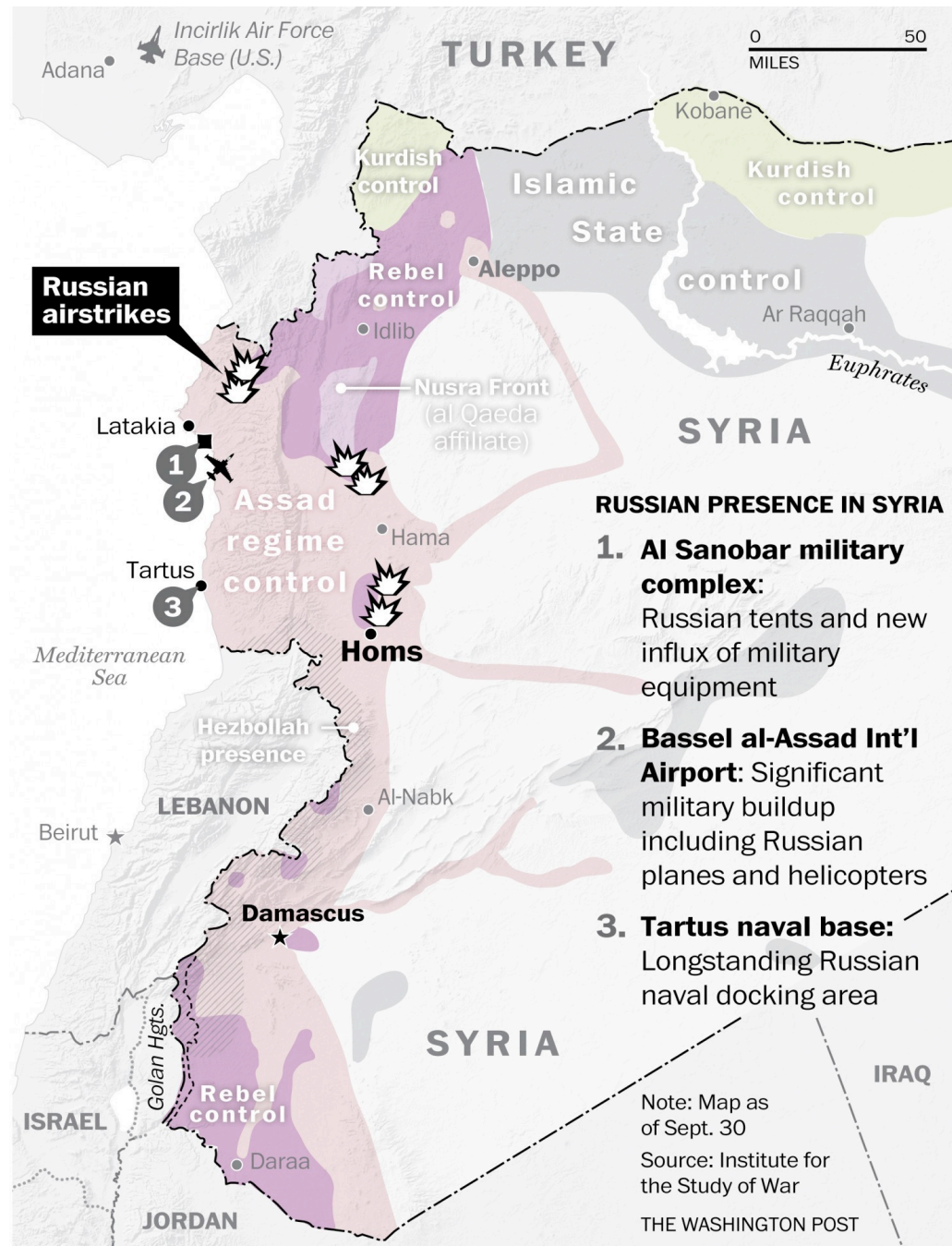
Source: Washington Post, October 4, 2014,
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/russias-military-is-unlikely-to-turn-the-tide-in-syrias-war/2015/10/03/1b9fff04-686a-11e5-bdb6-6861f4521205_story.html

Sources: Institute for the Study of War; Pentagon

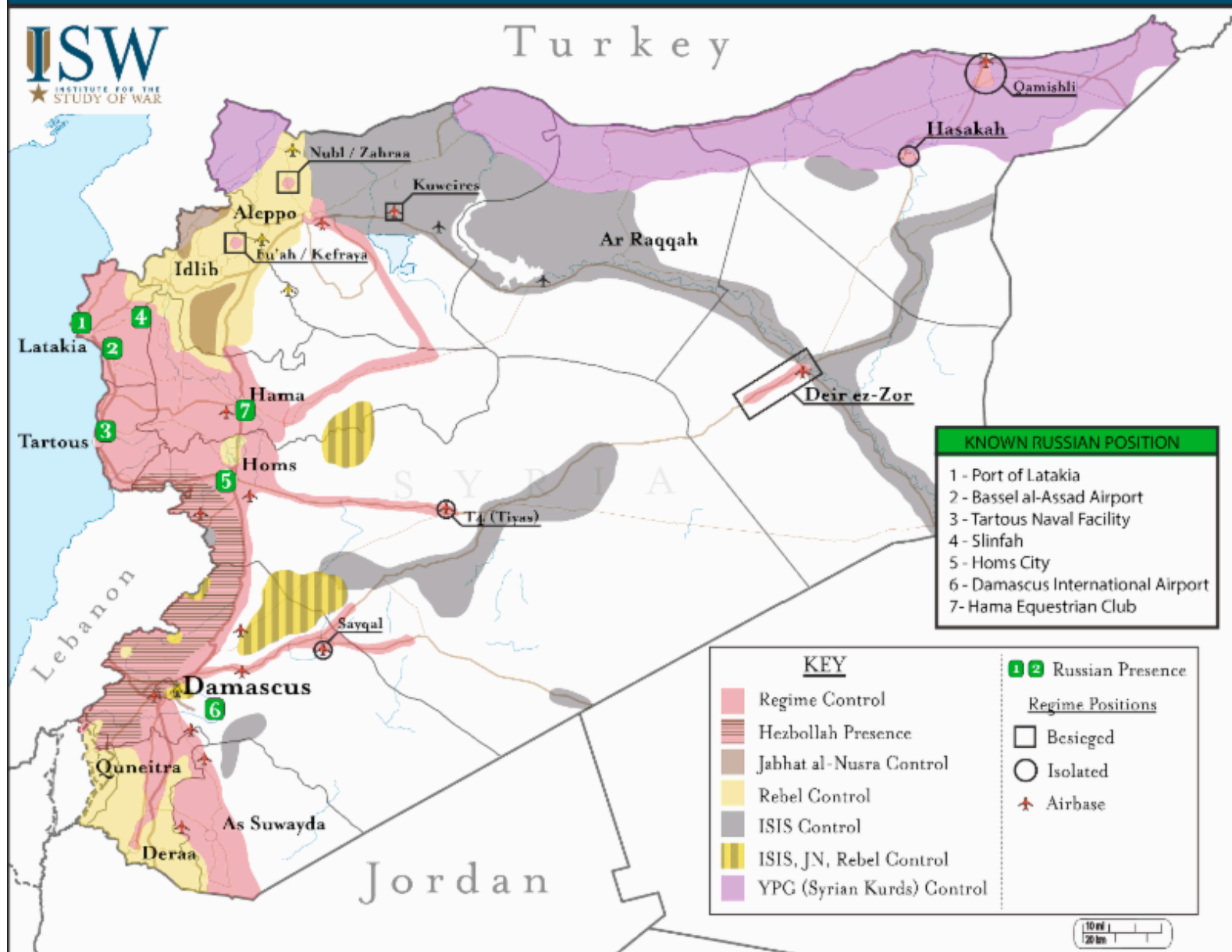
THE WASHINGTON POST

Russian Facilities in Syria: 9/2015

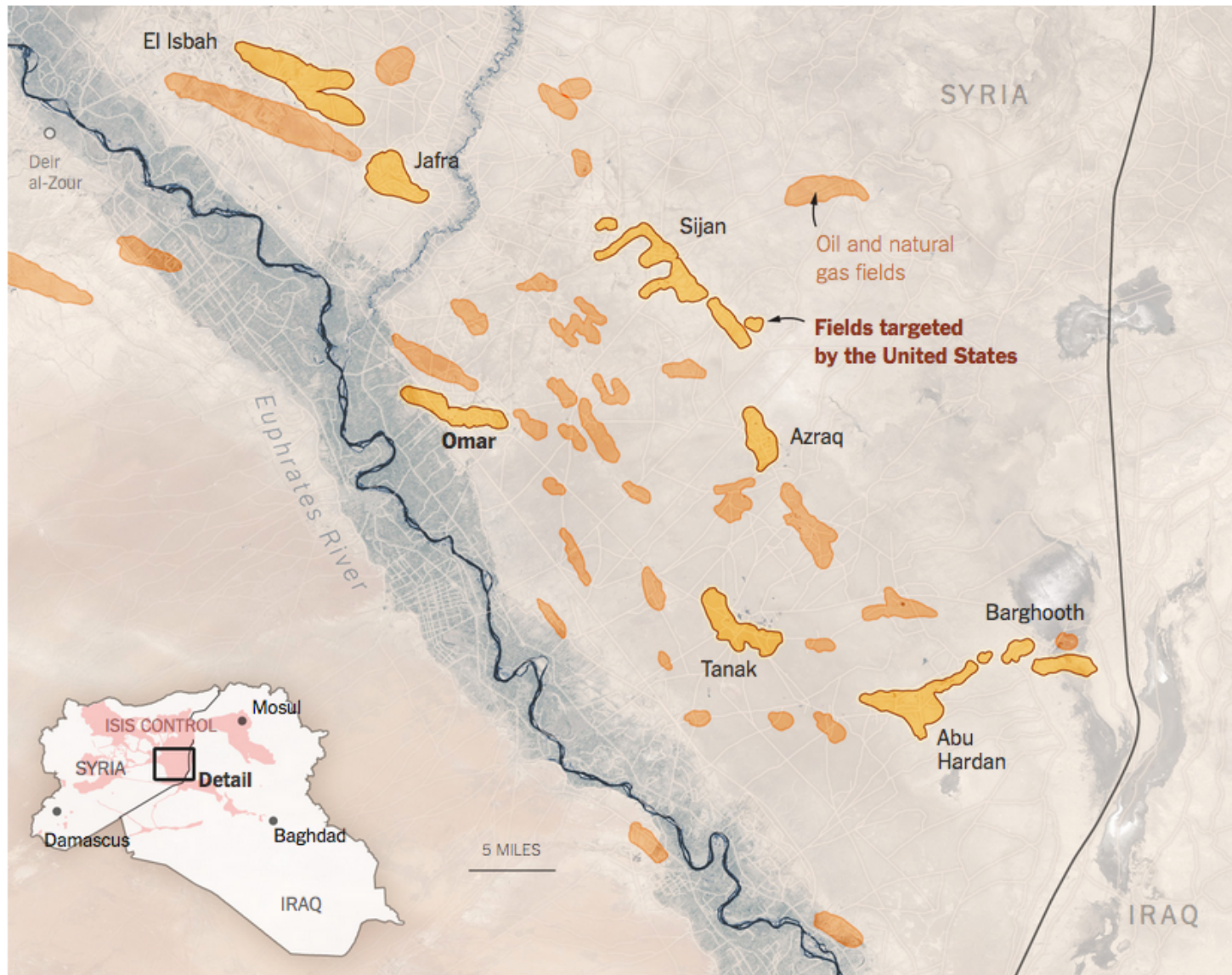
Source: Ishaan Tharoor, "Why Russia's Syria war is bad news for the U.S. (and why it isn't)", <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/09/30/why-russias-syria-war-is-bad-news-for-the-u-s-and-why-it-isnt/>



Russian Posture in Syria: September 27, 2015



Air Strikes on ISIS Oil Fields: 12.11.15



Russian Cruise Missile Strikes in Syria: 7/10/15



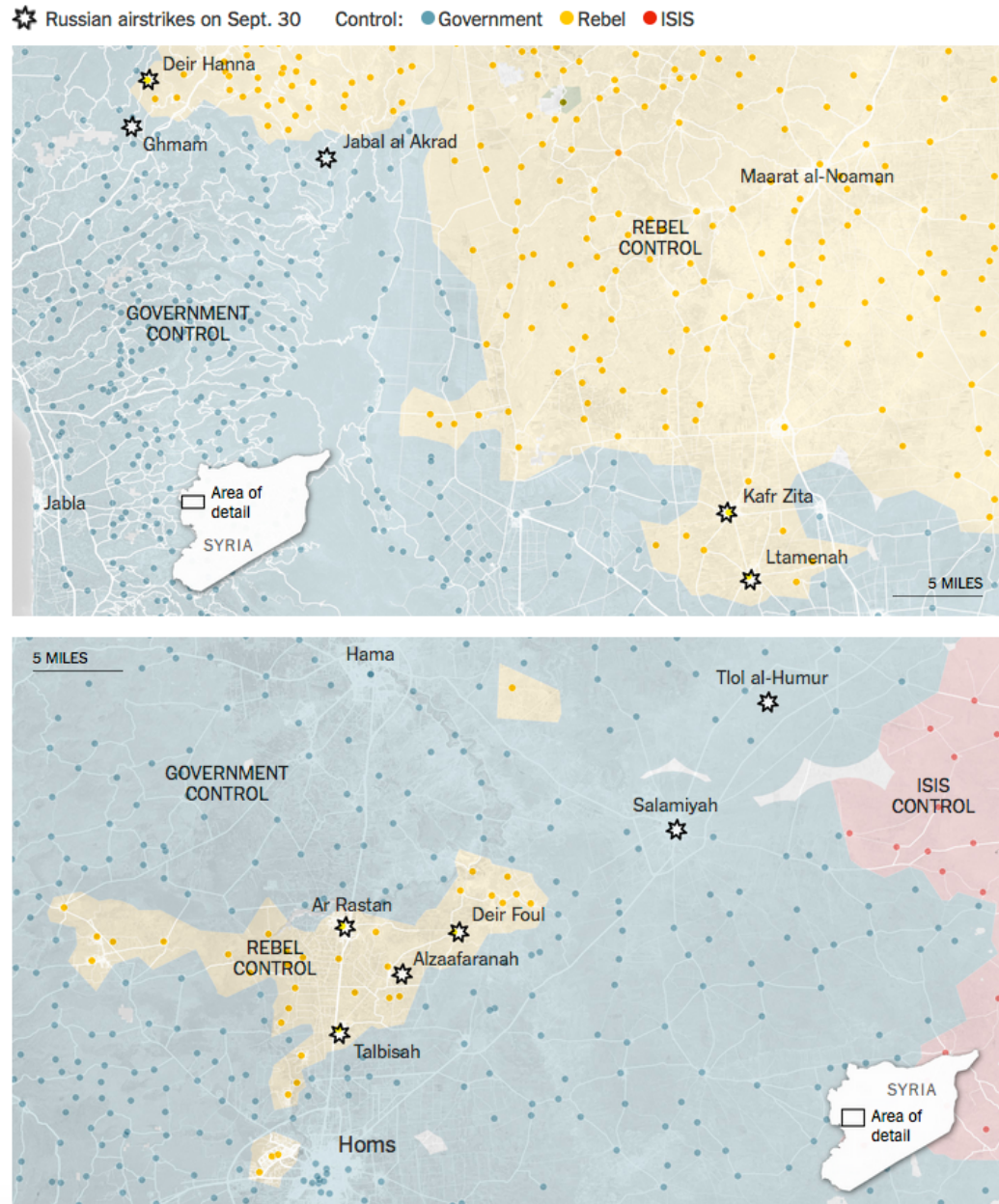
Source: Russian Defence Ministry, ISW

BBC

Russian Air Attacks in Syria

NYT Map
2/10/2015

Source:
[http://
www.nytimes
.com/
interactive/
2015/09/29/
world/
middleeast/
1000000394
8336.app.htm
l?_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/09/29/world/middleeast/10000003948336.app.htm?_r=0)

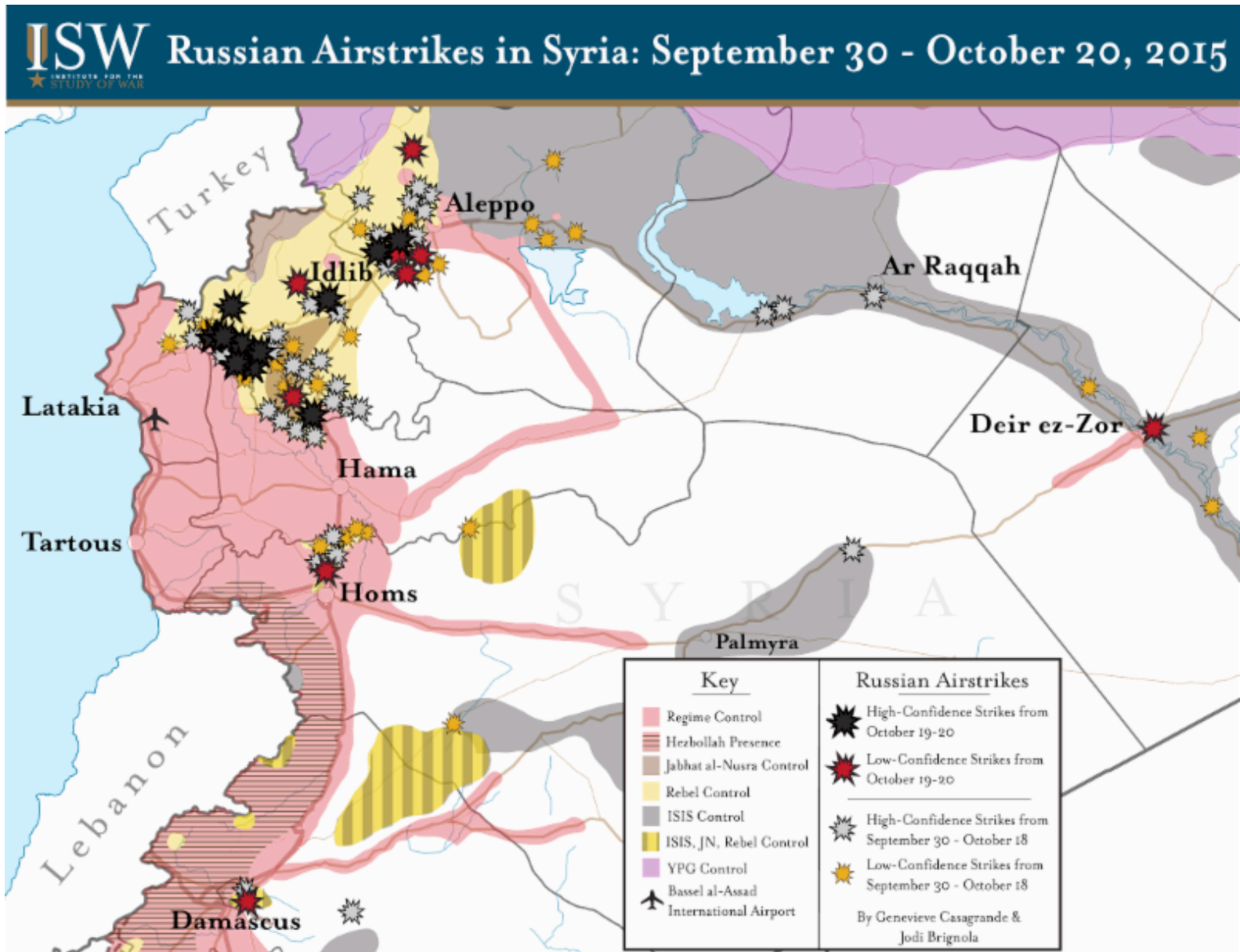


By The New York Times | Source: The Carter Center (areas of control)

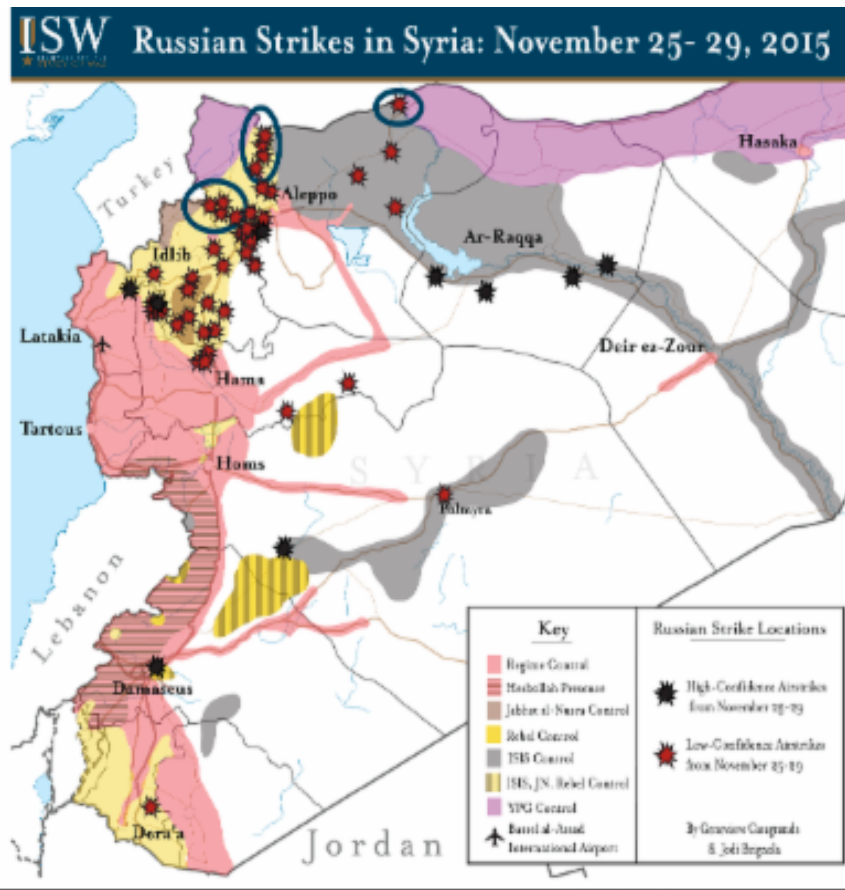
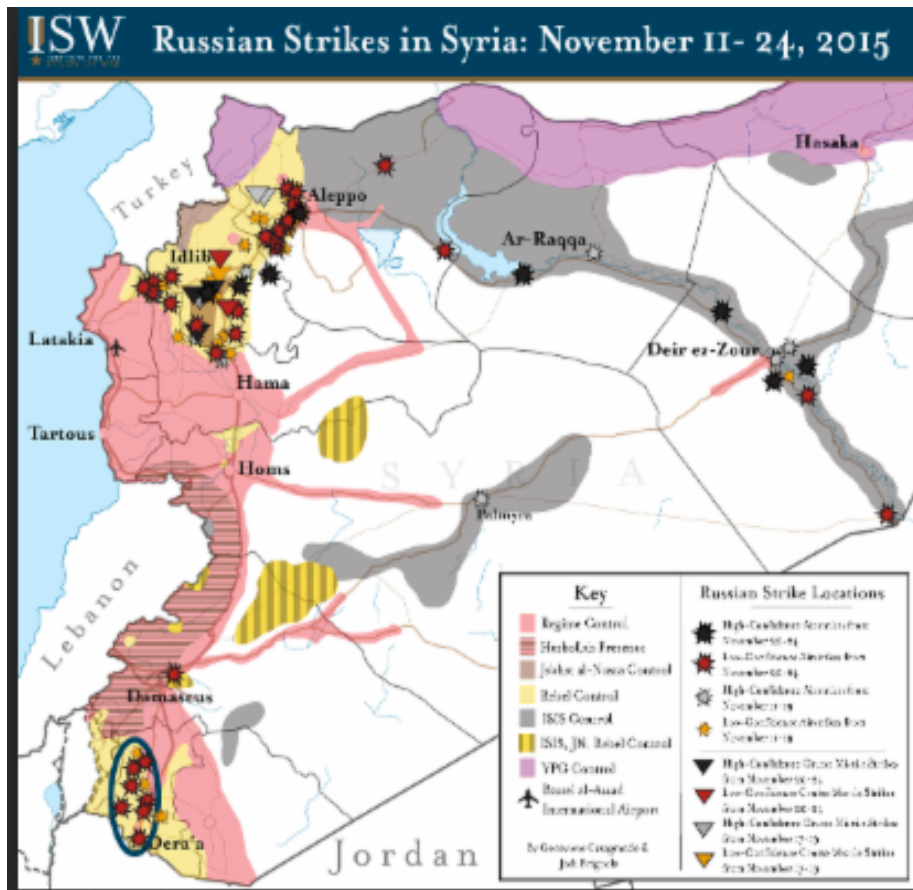
**Russia:
Pro-
Assad,
Not
Anti
ISIS**

**NYT Map
1/10/2015**

Source:
[https://
mail.google.c
om/mail/u/0/
#inbox/
1508afcc7372
b349](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/1508afcc7372b349)



Syria: Continued Russian Focus on other Rebel Forces: November 11-29, 2015



Source: ISW, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=30f86d1605&view=pt&q=Map&qs=true&search=query&th=15163767>, 3.12.15

Russian Air Strikes in Syria:

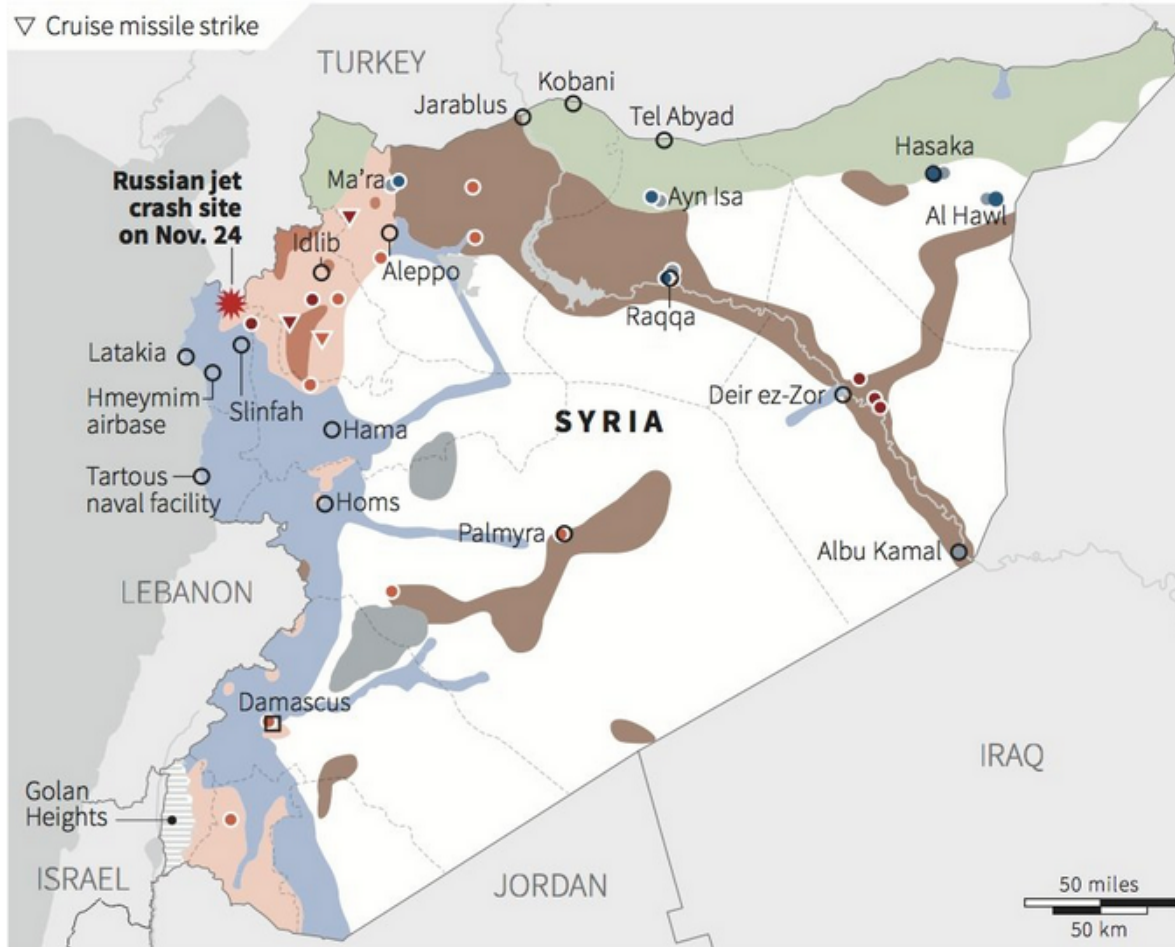
9/11/15-
25/11/15

Declared targets of Russia and the U.S.-led coalition's bombing campaigns in Syria.

CONTROL AREAS



REPORTED AIR STRIKES

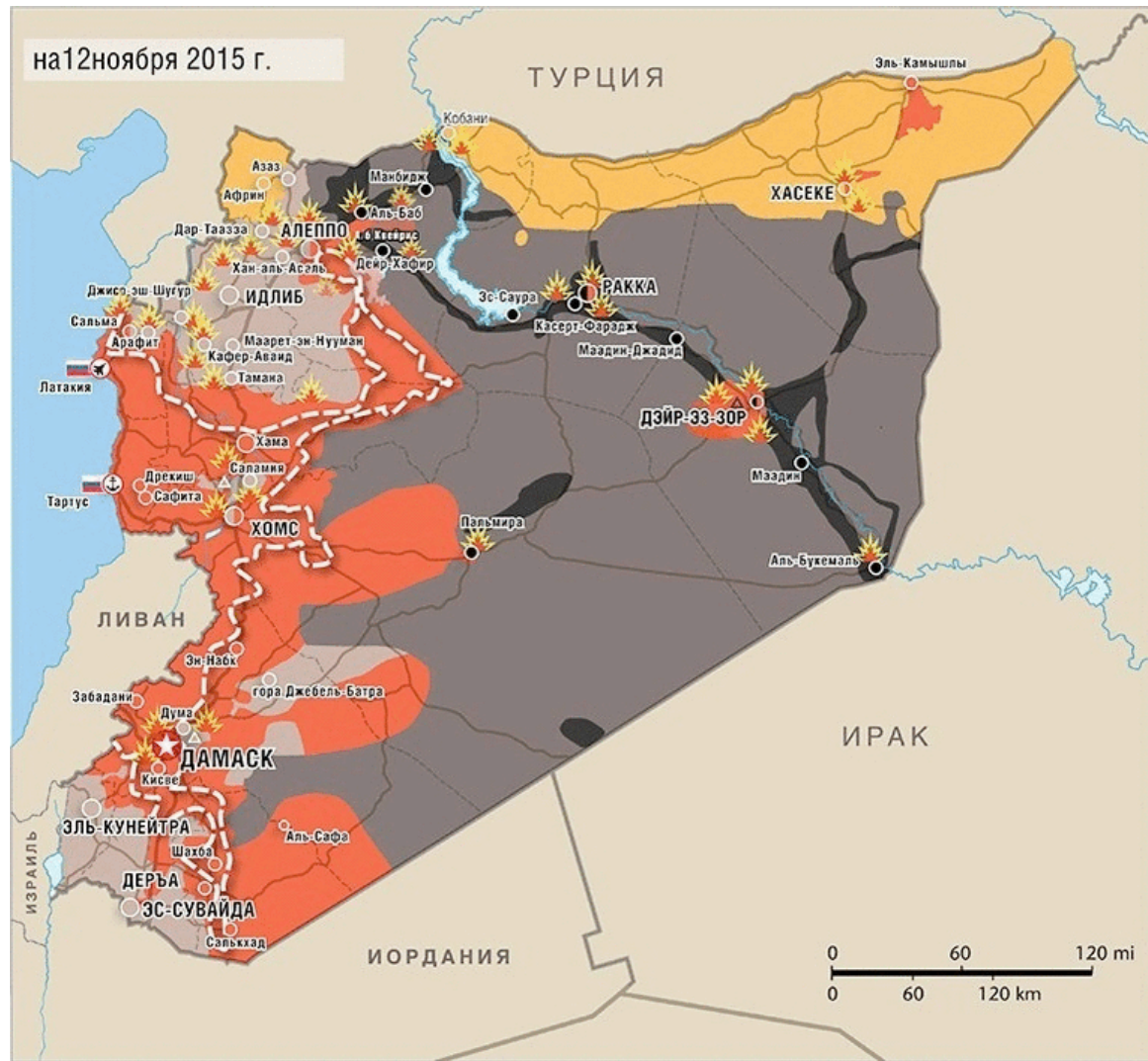


Note: U.S. air strikes are marked on the nearest identified town in the report. Russian air strike locations are from reports corroborated by official government statements reported through credible channels and documentation from rebel factions or activist networks. Markers does not represent strike frequency.

Sources: Institute for the Study of War; U.S. Central Command.

Source: Business Insider,
<http://www.businessinsider.com/russia-opening-second-military-airbase-in-syria-2015-12>

**10/11/2015 to
30/10/15**



Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8e/Russian_military_action_in_Syria_in_November_2015.gif

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
|  | Территории под контролем ИГИЛ |  | Районы интенсивных боевых действий |
|  | Укрепрайоны ИГИЛ |  | Линия соприкосновения сил по состоянию на 30 сентября |
|  | Джебхат ан-Нусра и др.террористические группировки |  | Место базирования группировки ВКС РФ |
|  | Правительственные войска и ополчение |  | Место базирования группировки ВМФ РФ |
| | |  | Окруженные анклавы |

Expanding Russian Air Action in Mid to late November 2015 – Wikipedia Estimate

On 17 November 2015, in the wake of the [Russian jet crash](#) over Sinai and the [Paris attacks](#), according to the Russian defence minister's public report to the president of Russia Vladimir Putin, Russia employed the Russia-based [Tu-160](#), [Tu-95MSM](#), and [Tu-22M3](#) long range [strategic bombers](#) firing [air-launched cruise missiles](#) to hit what he claimed were the IS targets in Raqqa, Deir ez-Zor as well as targets in the provinces of Aleppo and Idlib.^{[144][145]}

The Russian minister of defence said that, pursuant to Putin's orders, the Russian aviation grouping that at the time comprised more than 50 aircraft was intensifying their campaign.^[146] Besides, Putin said he had issued orders for the [Moskva cruiser](#) that had been in eastern Mediterranean since the start of the Russian operations to "work as with an ally",^{[142][144][147]} with the French naval group led by flagship [Charles De Gaulle](#) that had been on its way to eastern Mediterranean since early November.^[148]

The following day, according to the Russian Defence ministry, strikes by long-range bombers firing cruise missiles in the same areas in Syria continued.^{[149][150]} The mass cruise missile strikes carried out against ISIS in Deir Ezzor province on 20 November resulted in the death of more than 600 militants according to the ministry.^[151]

A Russian [Sukhoi Su-24](#) strike aircraft was [shot down](#) by a Turkish Air Force F-16 on 24 November 2015.^{[152][153]} According to Turkey's claims presented to the UN Security council, two planes, whose nationalities were unknown to them at the time, violated Turkish airspace over the [Yayladağı](#) province up to 1.36 miles for 17 seconds.^[154] The planes were given 10 warnings within the span of 5 minutes to change their course.

According to Turkey, the planes disregarded the warnings and were subsequently fired upon by Turkish F-16s patrolling the area. After the Turkish fire, one of the planes left Turkish airspace and the other crashed into Syrian territory.^[154] The Russian Ministry of Defense denied that any of their planes had violated Turkey's airspace, claiming they had been flying south of the [Yayladağı](#) province.^[155]

Russia also announced it would deploy additional air defense weapons in the area and accompany its bombers with fighter jets.^[156] The incident followed over month-long tensions over alleged repeated violations of Turkish airspace by Russian military jets —over nine times in October,^[157] one of which Russia admitted^[158]— and Turkish declaration from 17 October that it will "with no hesitation" shoot down any airplanes violating its airspace.^[159]

On 26 November 2015, deployment of [S-300](#) and [S-400](#) anti-aircraft systems was reported by Russia's official news media,^[54] to Latakia and on board the [Russian cruiser Moskva](#).^[160]

On 29 November 2015, Russian aircraft were reported to have struck targets in the Syrian Idlib province, including the town of [Ariha](#) that had been [captured](#) by the [Army of Conquest](#) 6 months prior, causing multiple casualties on the ground.^{[161][162]} Other targets hit included the [Turkistan Islamic Party](#)'s office in [Jisr al-Shughur](#) and a relief office of [Ahrar ash-Sham](#) group in the town of [Saraqib](#).^[163]

Russian Strength in Syria in late November 2015 – Wikipedia Estimate

- 4,000 personnel^[43]
- Naval ships
 - 3 Buyan-M class corvettes^[44]
 - 1 Gepard-class frigate^[44]
 - 1 Vishnya-class intelligence ship
 - 1 Improved Kilo-class submarine^[45]
 - 1 Slava-class cruiser^[46]
- Strategic bombers
 - 14 Tu-22M3^[47]
 - 6 Tu-95MSM^[47]
 - 5 Tu-160^[47]
- Tactical bombers
 - 12 Su-24M2
 - 6 Su-34^[48]
- Attack bombers
 - 12 Su-25SM^[49]
- Fighter aircraft
 - 4 Su-30SM^[50]
- Reconnaissance aircraft
 - 1 Il-20M1
- Attack helicopter
 - 12 Mi-24P ^[51]
- Utility helicopter
 - 4 Mi-8MTV-5
- Ground equipment 3 SA-22 SAM^[52]
Other anti-aircraft and anti-missile weapons,^[53] including S-400
- 3–4 dead (1–2 non-combat)^{[66][67]}
 - 1 Su-24M2 shot down^[68]
 - 1 Mi-8 destroyed[[]

Russian Strength in Syria in mid December 2015 – WINEP Estimate - I

- Russian Air Force has deployed over thirty sophisticated attack aircraft to launch strikes and support Syrian army ground offensives from Hmeimim, a west coast air base adjacent to Bassel al-Assad International Airport near Latakia.
- Key air-to-ground strike package consists of ten to twelve each of the Sukhoi Su-25SM and the Su-24M -- the former known for its close air support capacity and the latter for its precision bombing effects. These aircraft, while dated, are easier to repair, have proven reliable in air-to-ground combat, and fit the mission requirements for Syria.
- Four or so Su-30SMs add a significant air-to-air capability and bolster precision strikes. They have most likely been escorting bombers since Turkey shot down a Russian Su-24 on November 24.
- Moscow appears to be testing performance more modern Su-34 fighter bombers, reportedly six total in Syria. The Su-34 is eventual replacement for Su-24; brought online in Russia over the past two years, it is seeing combat for the first time in Syria. It possesses both an air-to-air capability with a range of over thirty miles and a precision bombing capability with up to six KAB-500 smart bombs, similar to the American Paveway GBU-12 laser-guided bomb.
- The Il-20 electronic warfare/surveillance plane is in country, tasked with intelligence collection. Russian drones are reportedly there for the same purpose, like the one shot down over Turkey in October. In addition to these fixed-wing aircraft, an estimated twenty or more Mi-24 attack helicopters and Mi-8 command-and-control/transport helicopters have been deployed.
- While it is difficult to determine total personnel numbers with precision, the British-based Royal United Services Institute assessed in November that between 1,200 and 1,350 Russian Air Force personnel are currently in Syria supporting air operations, including pilots, navigators, maintainers, air traffic controllers, airfield managers, weather monitors, and intelligence officers. Adding the naval and land units directly involved in the Syria campaign would triple this figure to approximately 3,500.
- According to widely cited figures released by IHS Jane's in October, the entire war effort -- including maritime, ground, and air activities -- will cost Russia approximately \$1 billion per year, excluding potential aircraft losses. Some estimates now triple that figure. Moreover, Moscow has deployed extra missile-defense assets since the Jane's report, including S-400 systems that require numerous additional vehicles and personnel.
- Compared to the Kremlin's overall 2015 defense budget, estimated at \$50 billion (3.1 trillion rubles) by the Moscow Times, the cost of the Syrian adventure does not seem extraordinary. Yet that budget is already under considerable pressure; it was originally set at 3.3 trillion rubles until a recession hit and the ruble collapsed. The cut came at a time when Moscow was forecasting pay raises, greater modernization efforts to meet its 2020 rearmament objectives, and larger "snap" training exercises as a deterrent message. The 2016 defense budget does not look any stronger.

Russian Strength in Syria in mid December 2015 – WINEP Estimate - II

- Several sources have reported that Moscow may deploy another fifty or more combat planes to Syria in the near future. Maintaining air operations for three dozen highly employed attack aircraft in an expeditionary environment is an extensive effort, and the burden will only increase as more aircraft arrive. According to a USA Today article citing U.S. Defense Department and Air Force officials, almost one-third of Russia's aircraft in Syria were grounded at any given time within weeks of commencing operations, whether due to local climate (which differs greatly from Russia's) or the lack of readily available parts. In comparison, USAF combat aircraft readiness rates hover above 80 percent on average.
- Recent activity at al-Shayrat Air Base, about twenty miles southeast of Homs, indicates that it is being populated by Russian equipment and fortified, and that its runway is being upgraded, possibly to support fixed-wing aircraft. Although some Russian forces are reportedly using Syrian bases at Hama and Tiya for helicopter and ground support operations, having a second fixed-wing air base fully at their disposal would offer redundancy should Hmeimim encounter operational obstacles, and increase response time to targets of opportunity. Yet moving supplies from Tartus port and Latakia to al-Shayrat would mean passing closer to rebel elements and not far from territory controlled by the Islamic State, increasing the potential for interruptions.
- In terms of costs, adding a second base to increase combat runs could easily double the current price of Moscow's campaign. It could also mean increasing the number of Russian personnel to approximately six or seven thousand if Syrian or Iranian forces cannot adequately defend al-Shayrat and its supply route -- which is unlikely because they are already heavily engaged as the campaign's ground offensive component. Moreover, Russian personnel and aircraft will eventually require replacement, further bumping up the operational costs.
- As tensions continue to simmer between Russia and Turkey, the Kremlin is no doubt keenly aware that the naval route from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean Sea to resupply Latakia and Tartus is a logistics chokepoint. The straits through which Russian ships transit are governed by the Montreux Convention of 1936, but there are differing interpretations regarding when and how Turkey could intervene to safeguard its national interests. Direct intervention would be quite provocative and dangerous, so Ankara would probably not attempt to stop Russian vessels. Yet delaying them could send a message, and hamper a steady sea resupply to Syria that involves dozens of commercial cargo and military landing ships every month. Such a delay would increase demand on the air bridge and other sea supply lanes.
- Meanwhile, the Russian Defense Ministry announced that approximately two dozen long-range bombers traveled thousands of miles to strike Syrian targets in mid-November and again this month. The Tu-22M Backfire was the most prevalent, but other bombers were also involved, including the Tu-95 Bear and Tu-160 Blackjack, each employing a mix of guided and nonguided munitions as well as cruise missiles. Additionally, the firing of twenty-six Kalibr-class cruise missiles from the Caspian Sea in October certainly captured the attention of regional stakeholders. And earlier this month, a Russian Rostov-on-Don-class submarine launched Kalibr missiles from the Mediterranean for the first time.
- These long-range strikes indicate that Russia has the ability to periodically alleviate the burden on its Syria-based aircraft and munitions depot if necessary. Munitions will be a determining expenditure, costing approximately \$750,000 a day for Syria-based strikes alone. Yet the long-range option comes with its own costs: each 3M14E ship-launched cruise missile runs from \$1.2 to \$1.5 million, which likely makes it an occasional option only. Should Russia have to conduct extensive long-range attacks, the operational expense would increase exponentially.

Second Russian Air Base?

- Improve main runway and 3 Km back up runway?
- 45 aircraft shelters?
- 12 more Sukhoi Su-30SM or Su-27SM3
- Rise to 100-120 combat aircraft in country?
- S-21 and S-400 SAM defenses?
- More Mi-24 Hind? KA-52 and Mi-28 helicopters?
- 24 tube TOS-1 MRL on ground with thermobaric warhead?



Range and Impact of Russian S-400 SAM in Syria

Russia's introduction of the S-400 Triumph weapons system in Syria near Latakia, confirmed by CJTF-OIR officials on December 2, poses additional risk to U.S. and coalition forces in the airspace over the battlefield in Syria. The S-400 is a mobile surface-to-air defense missile system with long-range strike capability of about 400 kilometers. See Figure 4 for key cities and airspace positions in full range of the missiles. In December, CJTF

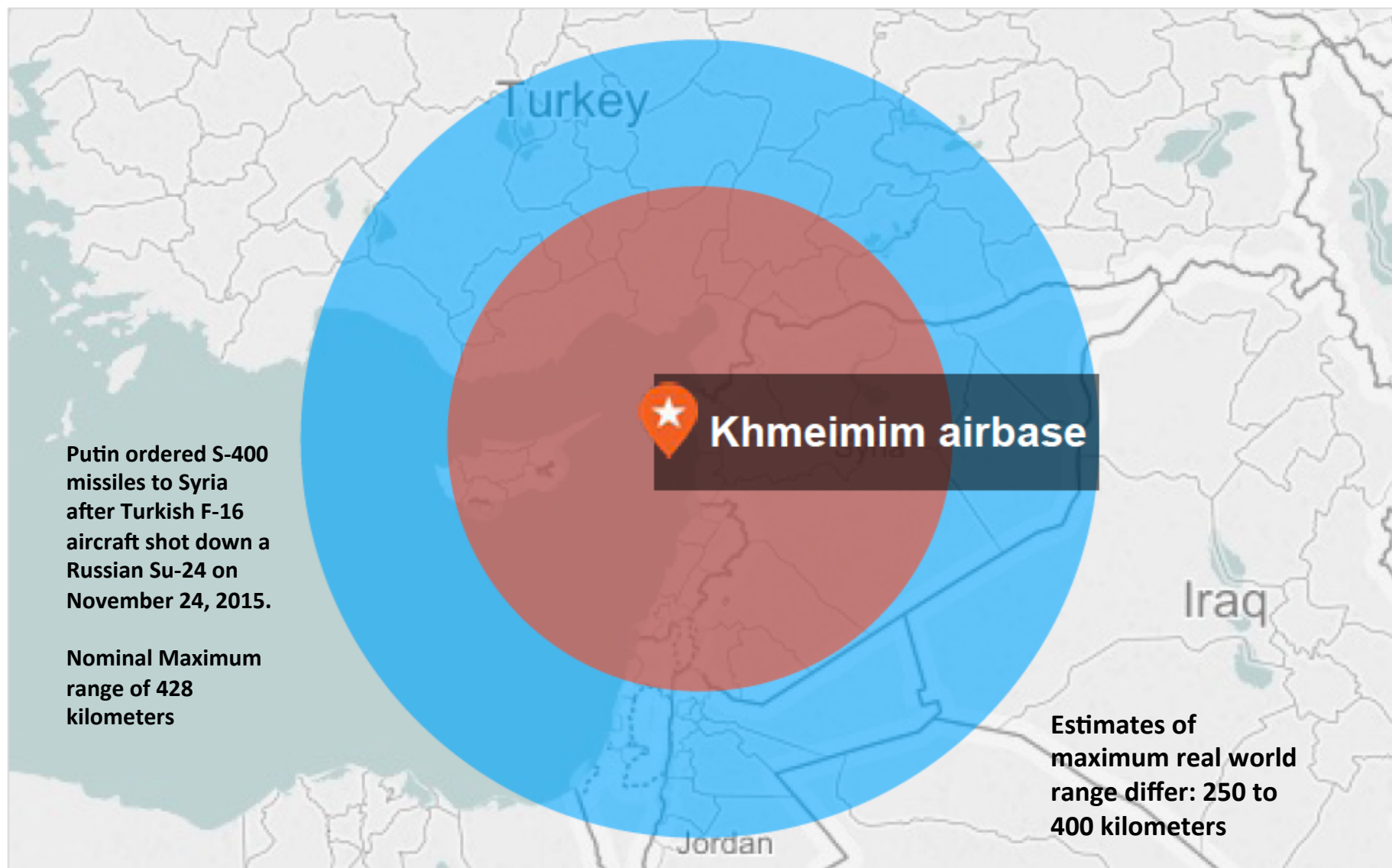
OIR reported that Russia's SA-17 air-defense radar system is located in Aleppo, but its location was not influencing coalition airstrikes.

CJTF-OIR officials repeatedly denied that the deployment of these advanced systems had any effect on the U.S. air mission.

DoD reported that, over a 27-day span during December 5–31, the coalition conducted 172 airstrikes in Syria (6.37 per day). The month prior, during November 7–27, it conducted 185 strikes (8.01 per day).



Maximum S-400 Surface-to- Air Missile Coverage

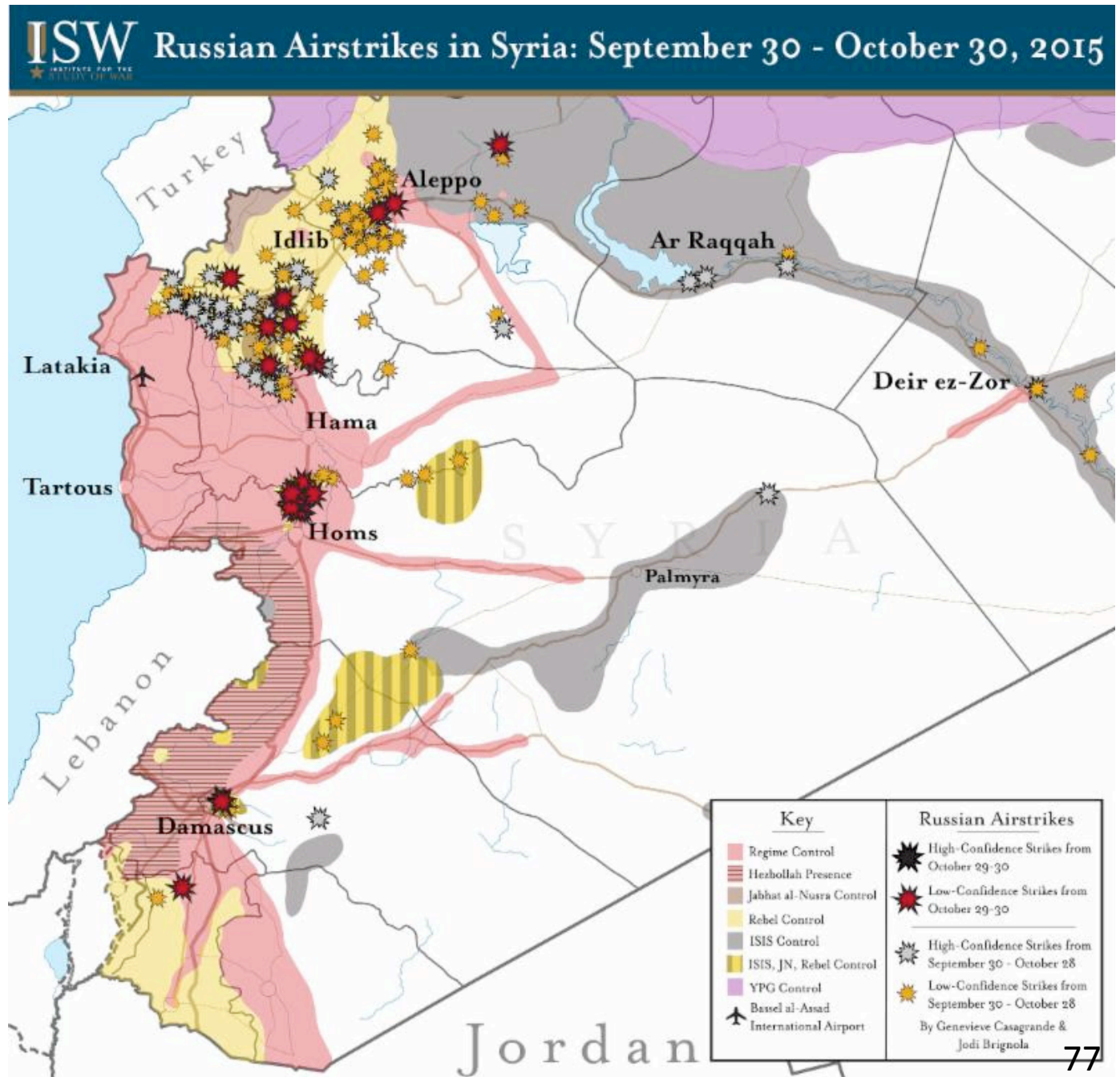


Source: adapted from *Military Times*,

<http://www.militarytimes.com/story/military/pentagon/2015/11/30/new-russian-surface--air-missiles-syria-dod-confirms/76567120/>; <http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/25/middleeast/syria-turkey-russia-warplane-shot-down/>

**Syria: Russian
airstrikes focus
on other Rebel
Forces:
September 30-
October 30,
2015**

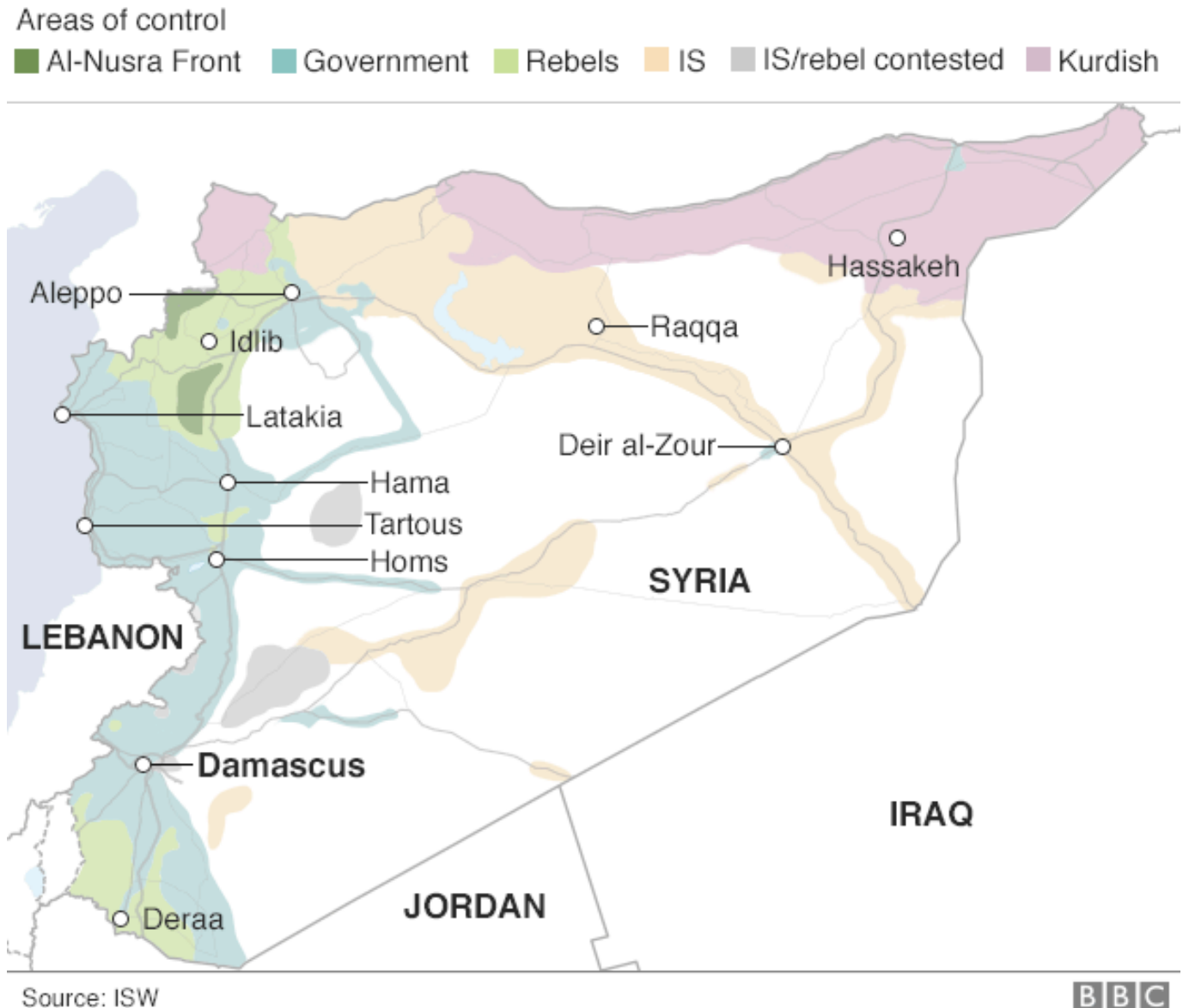
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 ; 1.11.2015



Facts on the Ground When Putin Announced Withdrawals

Russian aircraft flew more than 9,000 sorties
 Destroyed 209 oil production and transfer facilities
 Helped Syrian government troops to retake 400 settlements
 Helped Damascus to regain control over more than 10,000 sq km (3,860 sq miles) of territory
Source: Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu, quoted by Russian media

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-35809087>

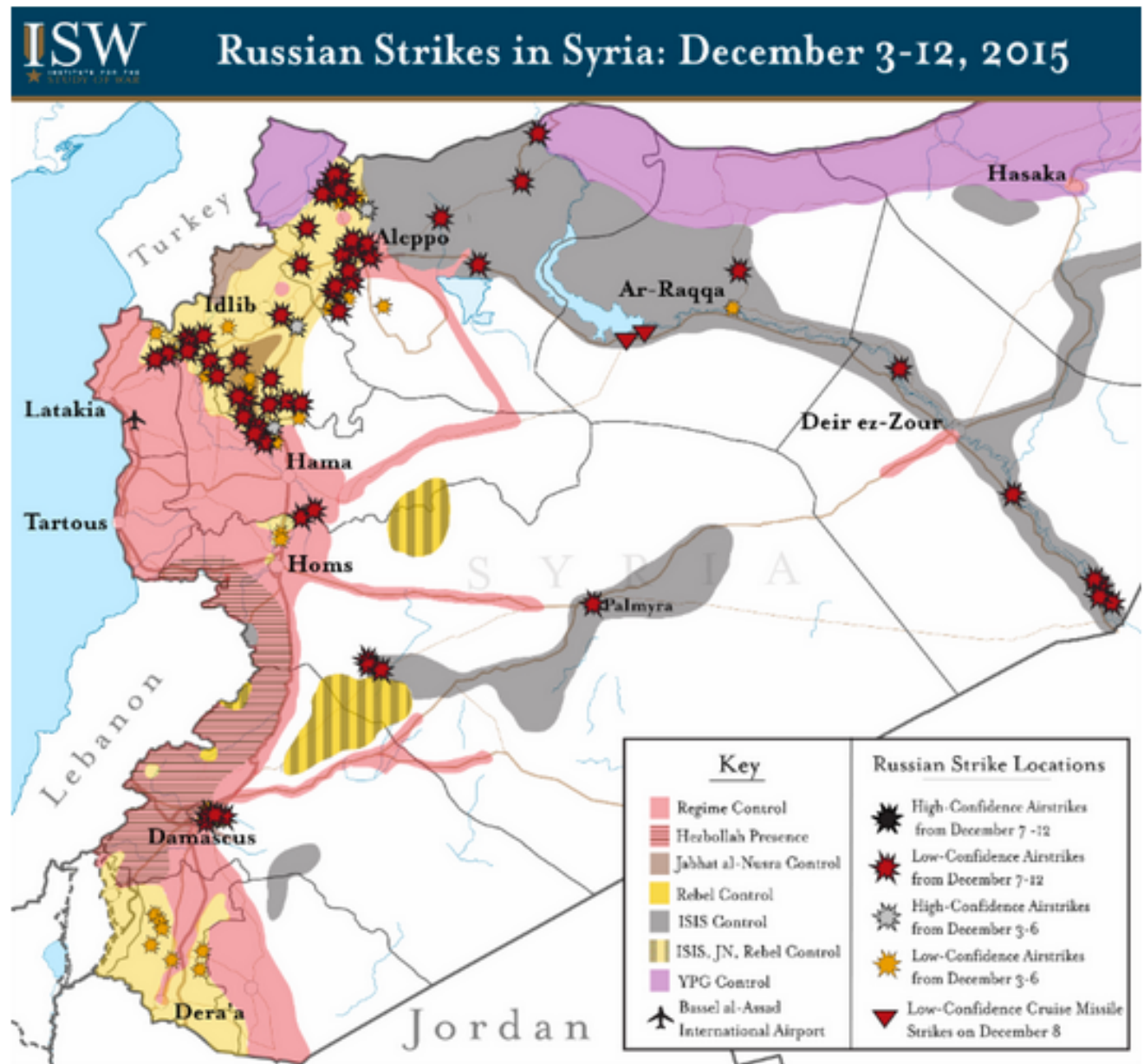


Air Campaign: Russian Strikes 3-12 December 2015

High-Confidence reporting. ISW places high confidence in reports corroborated both by official government statements reported through credible channels and documentation from rebel factions or activist networks on the ground in Syria deemed to be credible.

Low-Confidence reporting. ISW places low confidence in secondary sources that have not been confirmed or sources deemed likely to contain disinformation.

Source: ISW, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=30f86d1605&view=pt&q=map&search=query&th=1519d5e23e23d399&siml=1519d5e23e23d399>

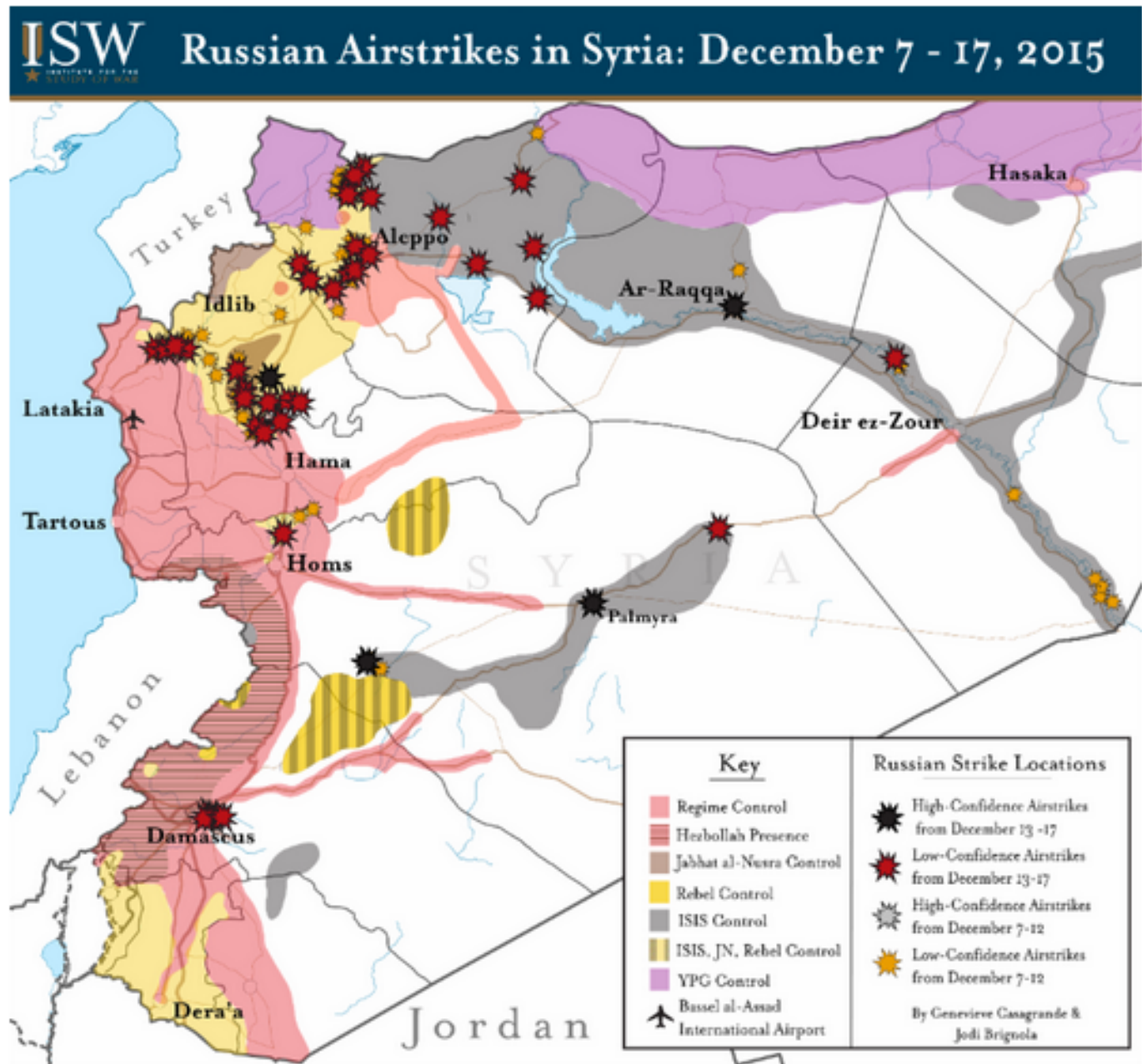


Air Campaign: Russian Strikes 7-17 December 2015

High-Confidence reporting. ISW places high confidence in reports corroborated both by official government statements reported through credible channels and documentation from rebel factions or activist networks on the ground in Syria deemed to be credible.

Low-Confidence reporting. ISW places low confidence in secondary sources that have not been confirmed or sources deemed likely to contain disinformation.

Source: ISW, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=30f86d1605&view=pt&q=map&search=query&th=1519d5e23e23d399&siml=1519d5e23e23d399>

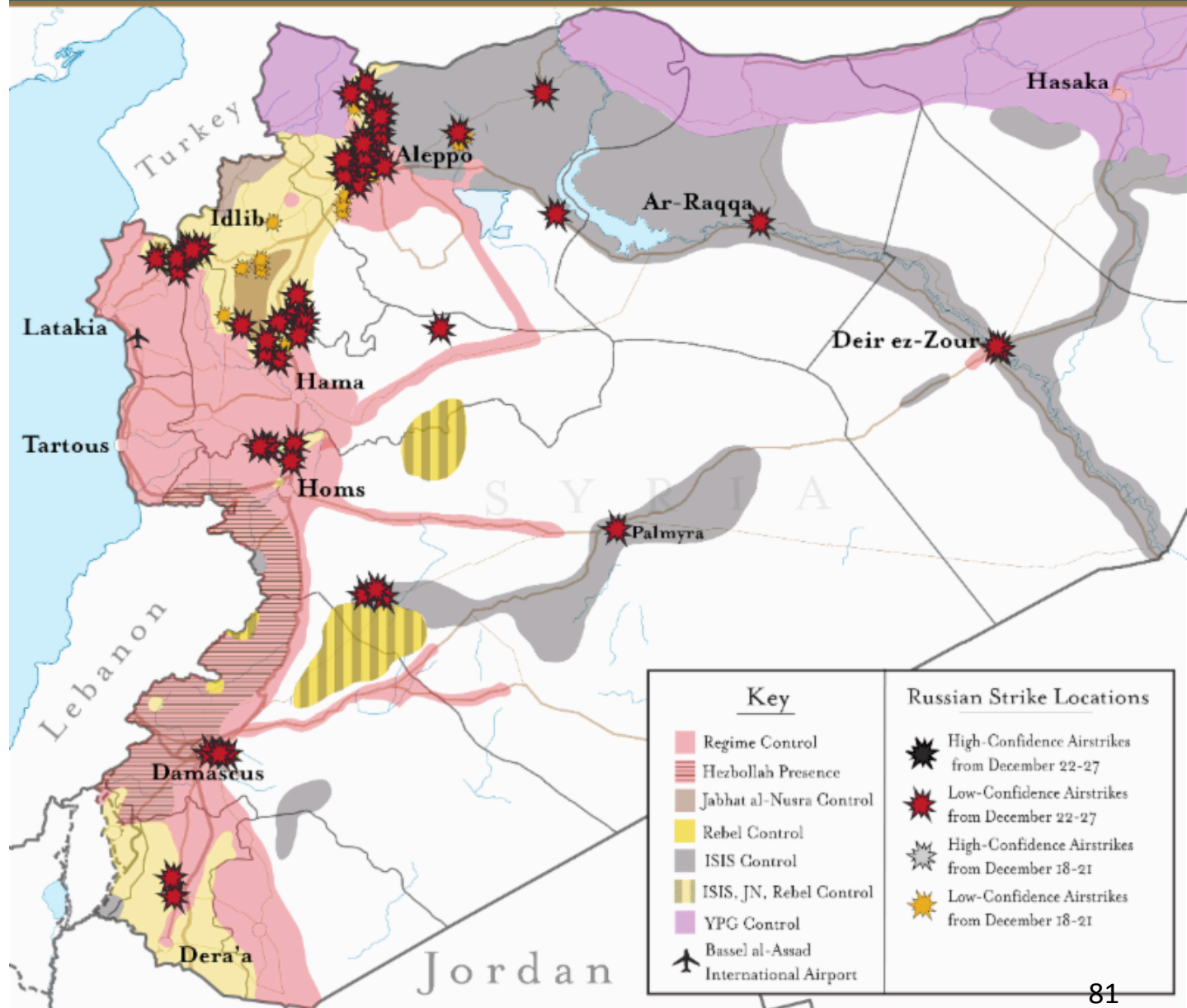


Air Campaign: Russian Strikes 18-27 December 2015

High-Confidence reporting. ISW places high confidence in reports corroborated both by official government statements reported through credible channels and documentation from rebel factions or activist networks on the ground in Syria deemed to be credible.

Low-Confidence reporting. ISW places low confidence in secondary sources that have not been confirmed or sources deemed likely to contain disinformation.

Source: ISW,
[http://
campaign.r20.constantc
ontact.com/render?
ca=c511c55f-
b16b-4a0f-85ca-0ddf36c
d8188&c=7d155a90-40d
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8fe0-40d5-11e3-81e2-
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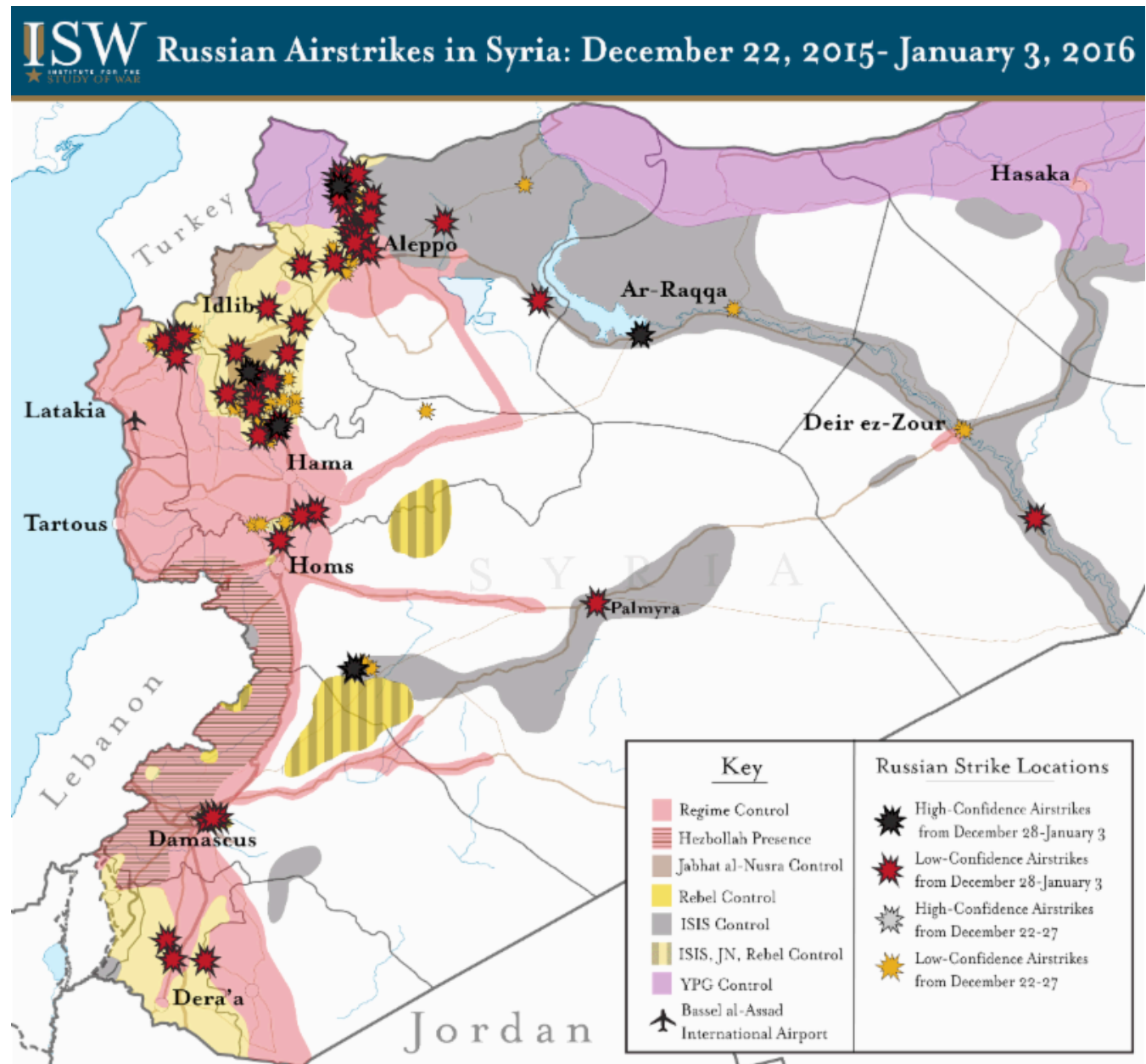


Air Campaign: Russian Strikes 22.12.2015- 3.1.2016

High-Confidence reporting. ISW places high confidence in reports corroborated both by official government statements reported through credible channels and documentation from rebel factions or activist networks on the ground in Syria deemed to be credible.

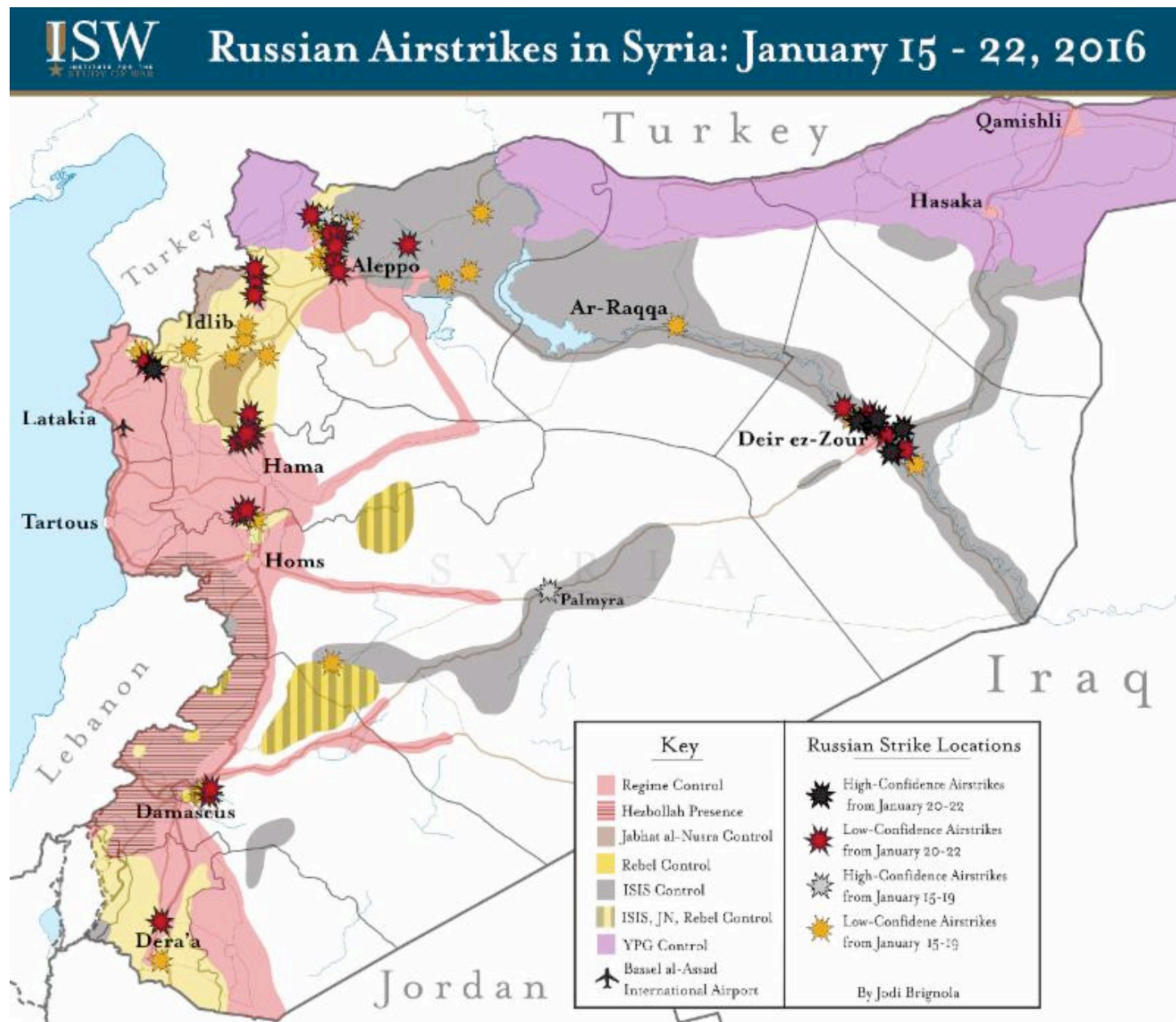
Low-Confidence reporting. ISW places low confidence in secondary sources that have not been confirmed or sources deemed likely to contain disinformation.

Source: ISW,
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/15211e137d31fcd5>



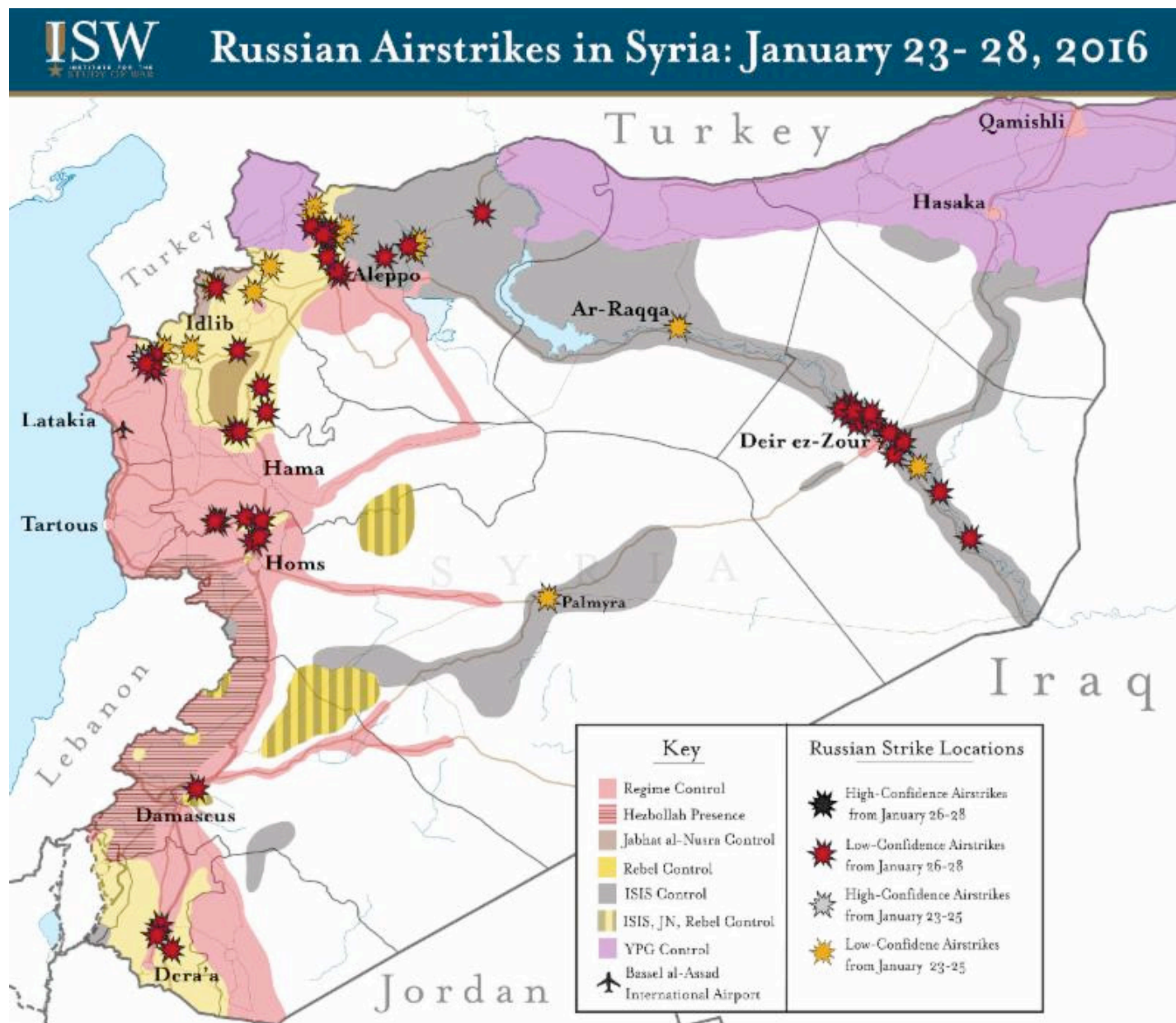
**Syria:
Russian
airstrikes
focus on
other
Rebel
Forces**

Source: ISW, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/152704fd1e0b8f44>



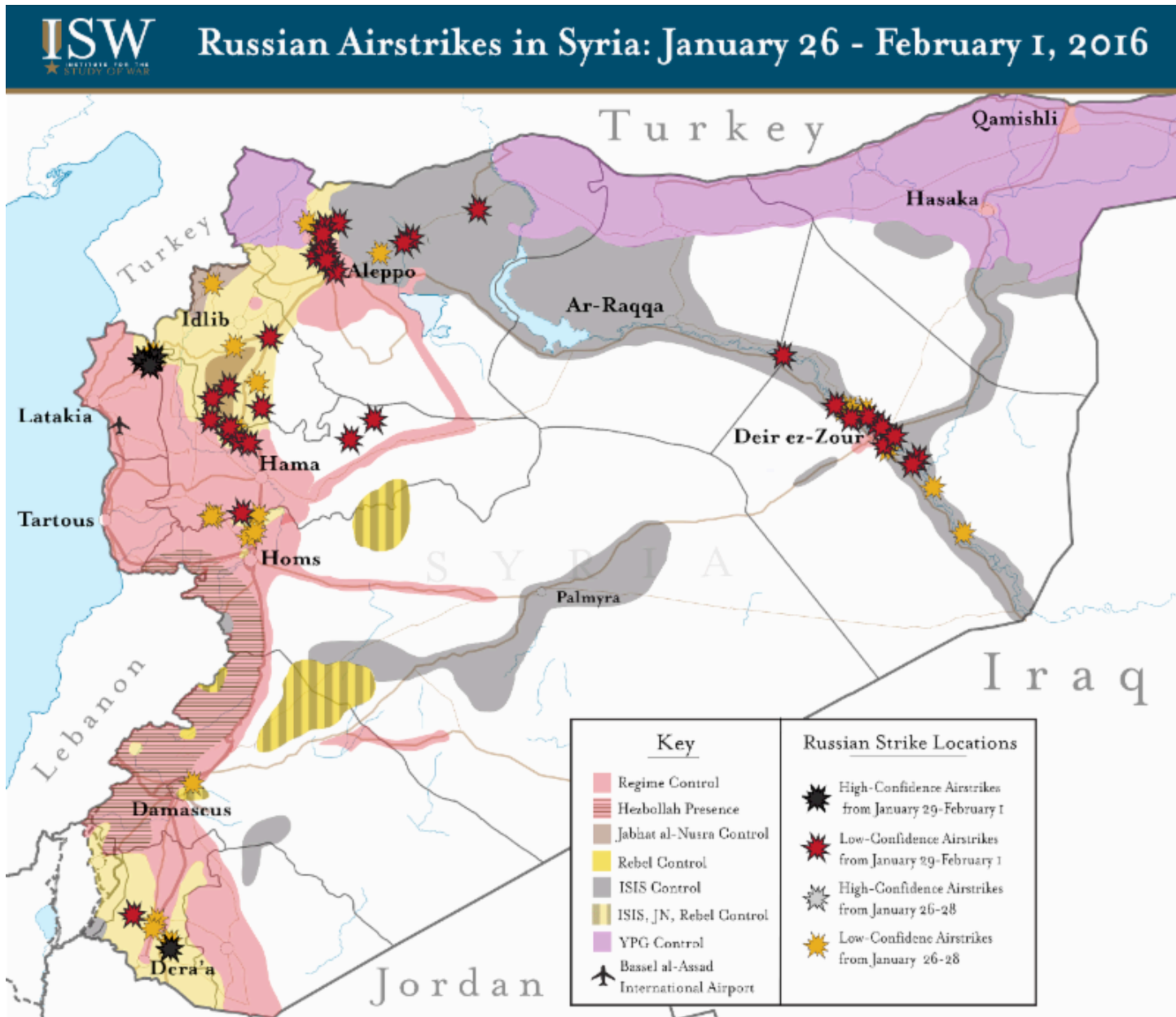
**Syria:
Russian
airstrikes
focus on
other
Rebel
Forces:**

Source: ISW,
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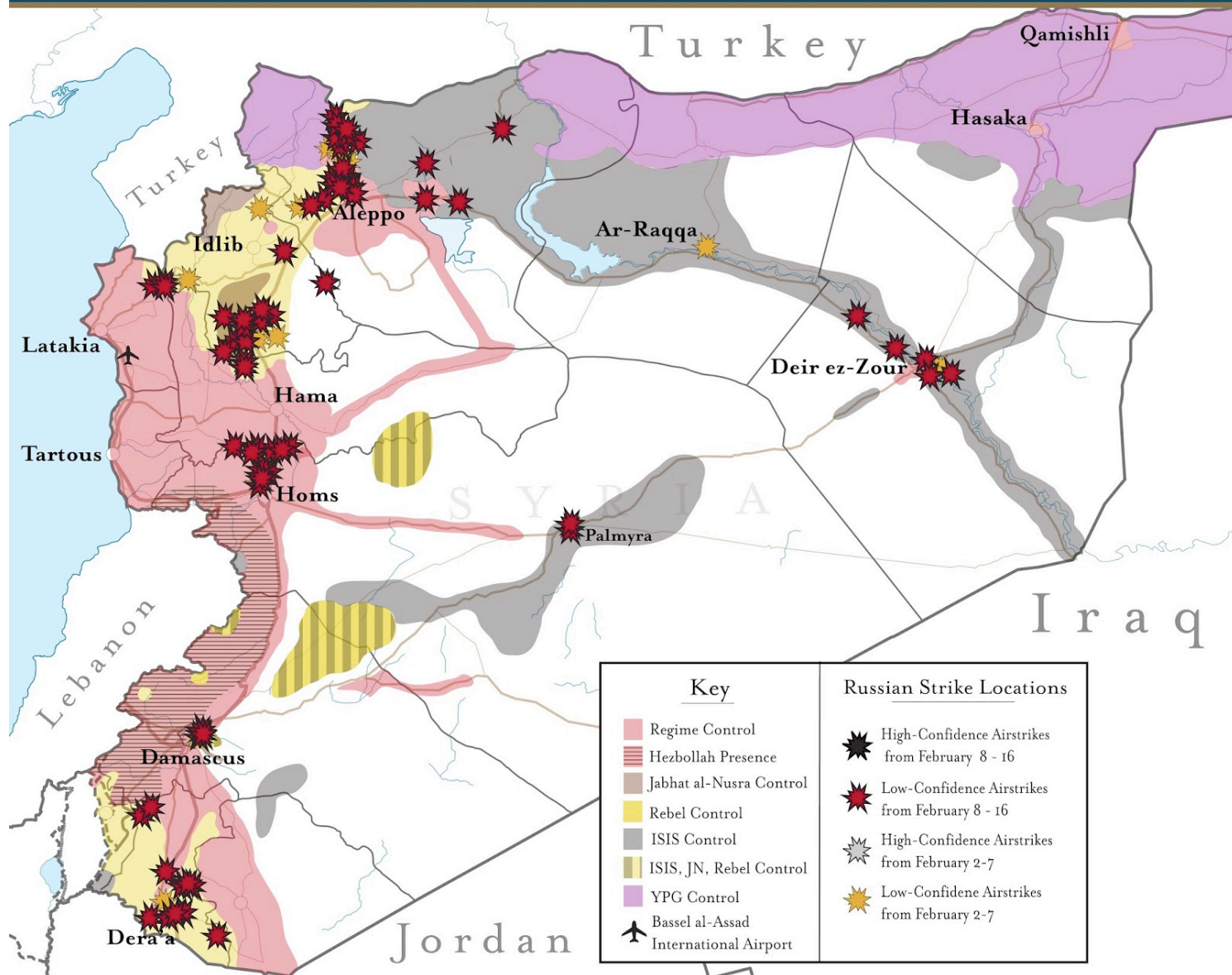


**Syria:
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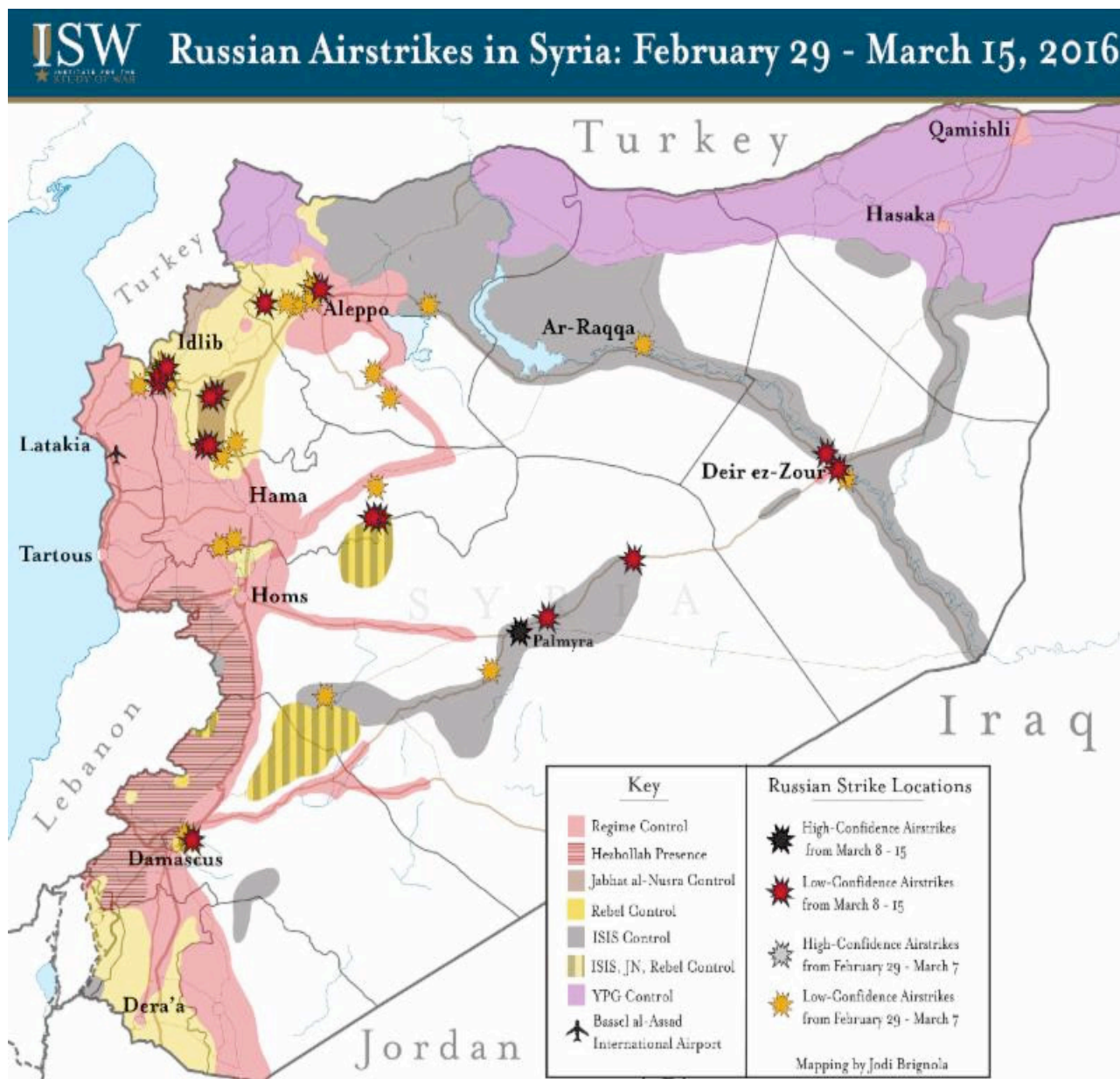
Syria:
Russian
air strikes
Still focus
on other
Rebel
Forces:



Source: ISW,
<http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2016/02/russian-airstrikes-in-syria-february-8.html>

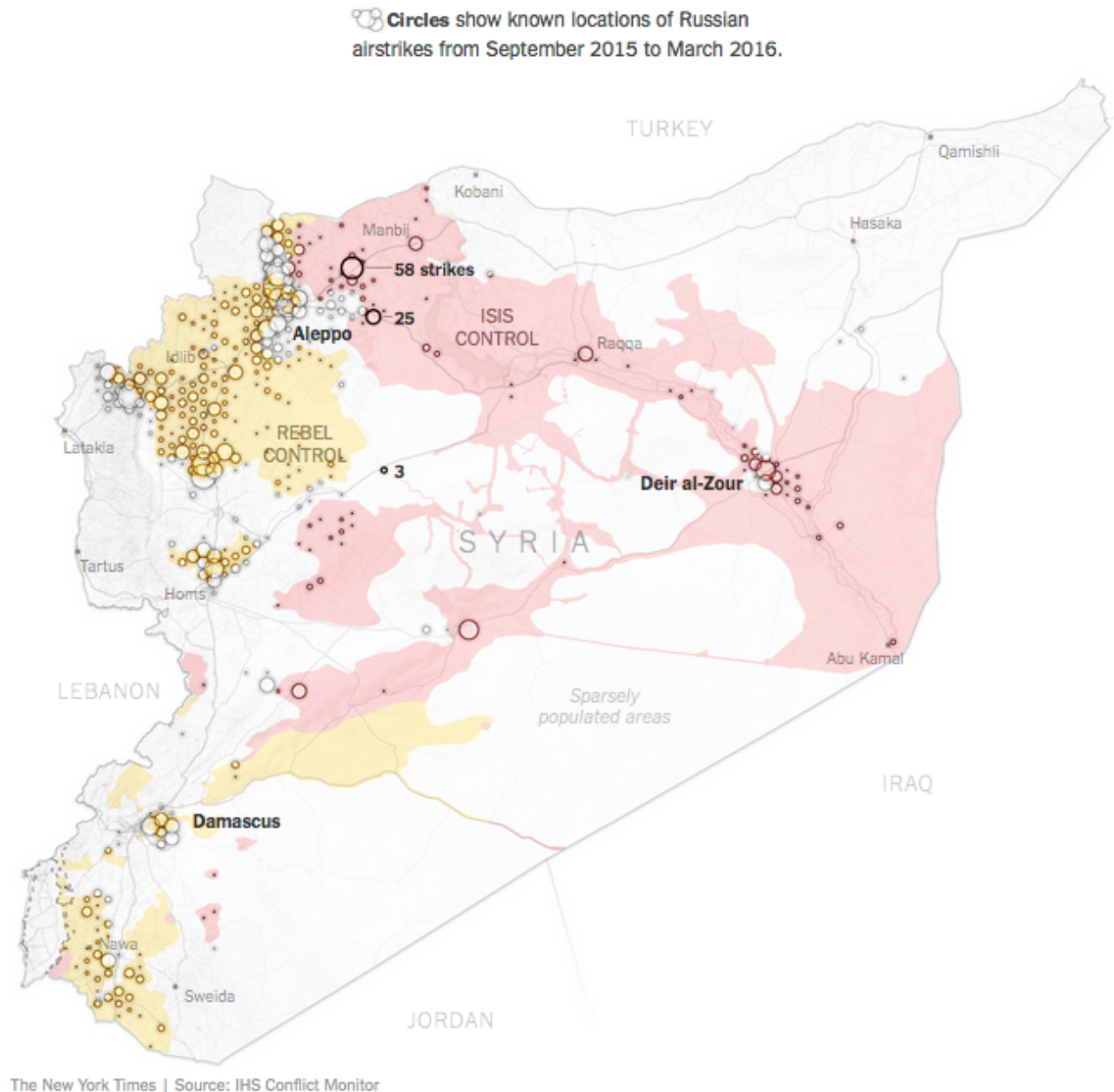
Syria: Russian air strikes before withdrawal announcement

Source: ISW,
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=30f86d1605&view=pt&search=inbox&th=15384c92f2a9a462&siml=15384c92f2a9a462>



Russian Air Strikes September 2015 to March 17, 2016

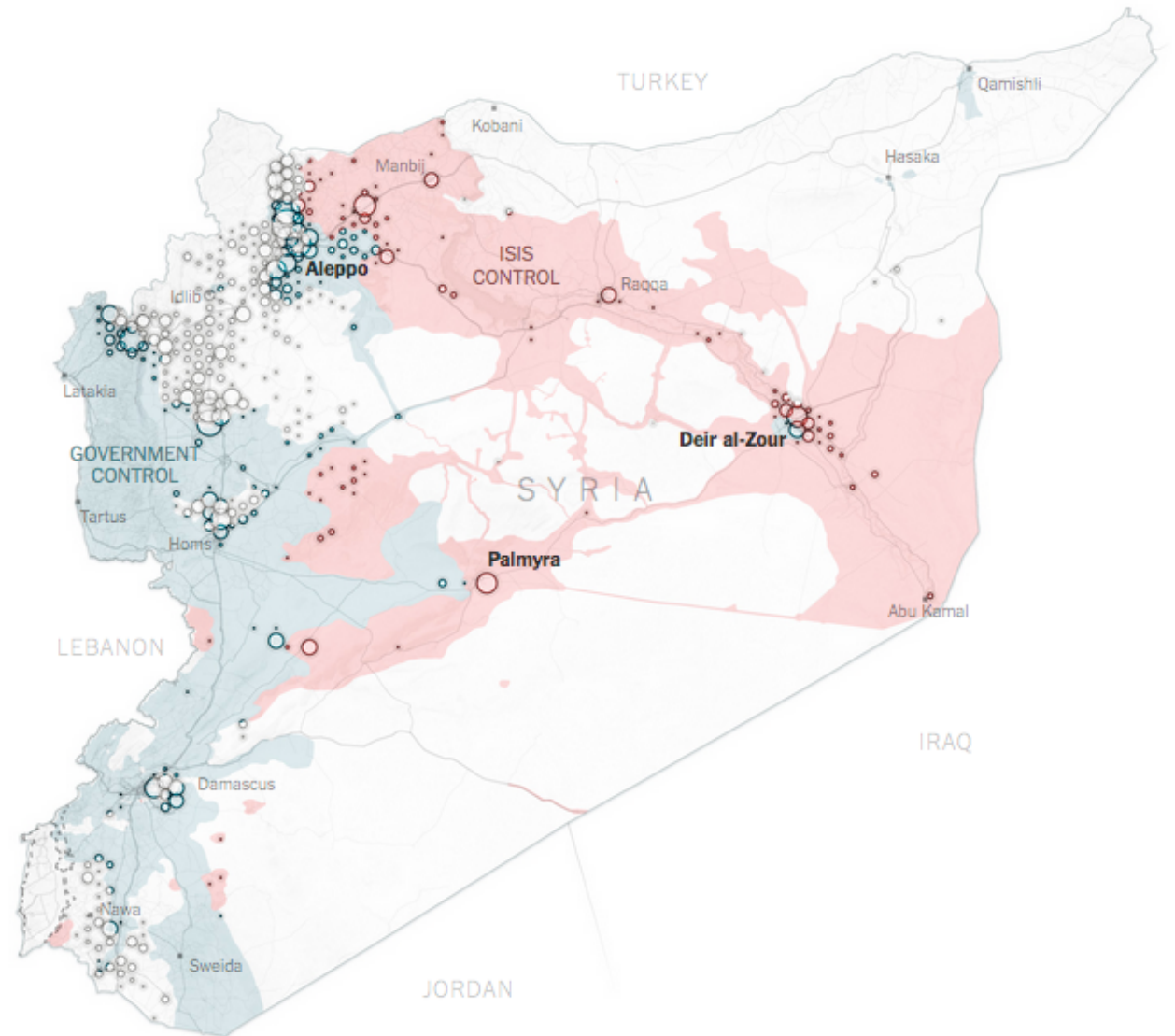
Source: NYT, IHS
Conflict Monitor,
[http://
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nytap=ipad&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/17/world/middleeast/100000004272587.a.html?nytap=ipad&r=0)



Russian Air Strikes Concentrate on Supporting Assad Regime

September
2015 to
March 17,
2016

Source: NYT, IHS
Conflict Monitor,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/
2016/03/17/world/
middleeast/
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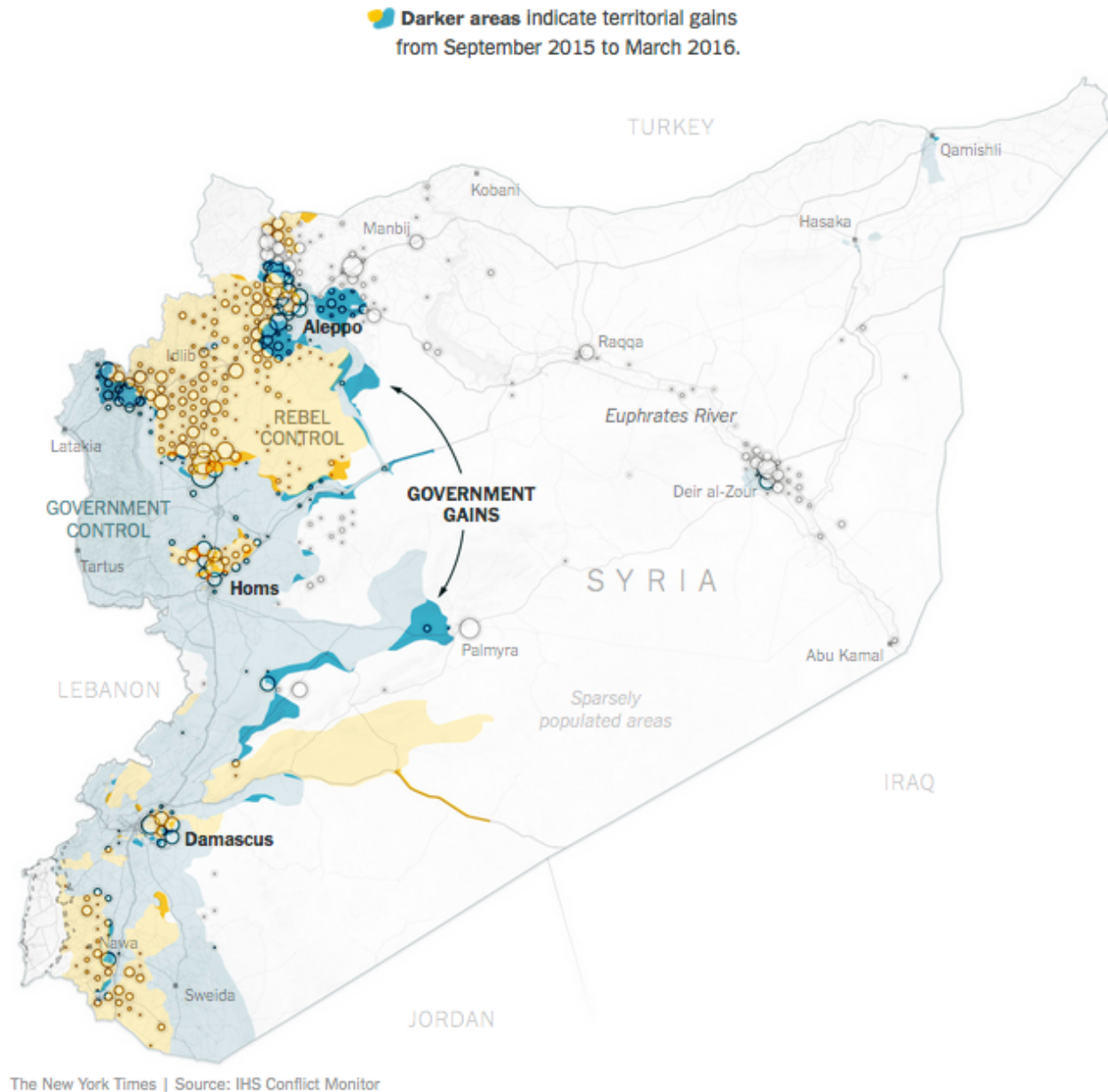


The New York Times | Source: IHS Conflict Monitor

Russian Air Strikes Aid Assad Regime Gains Against Rebels

September 2015 to March 17, 2016

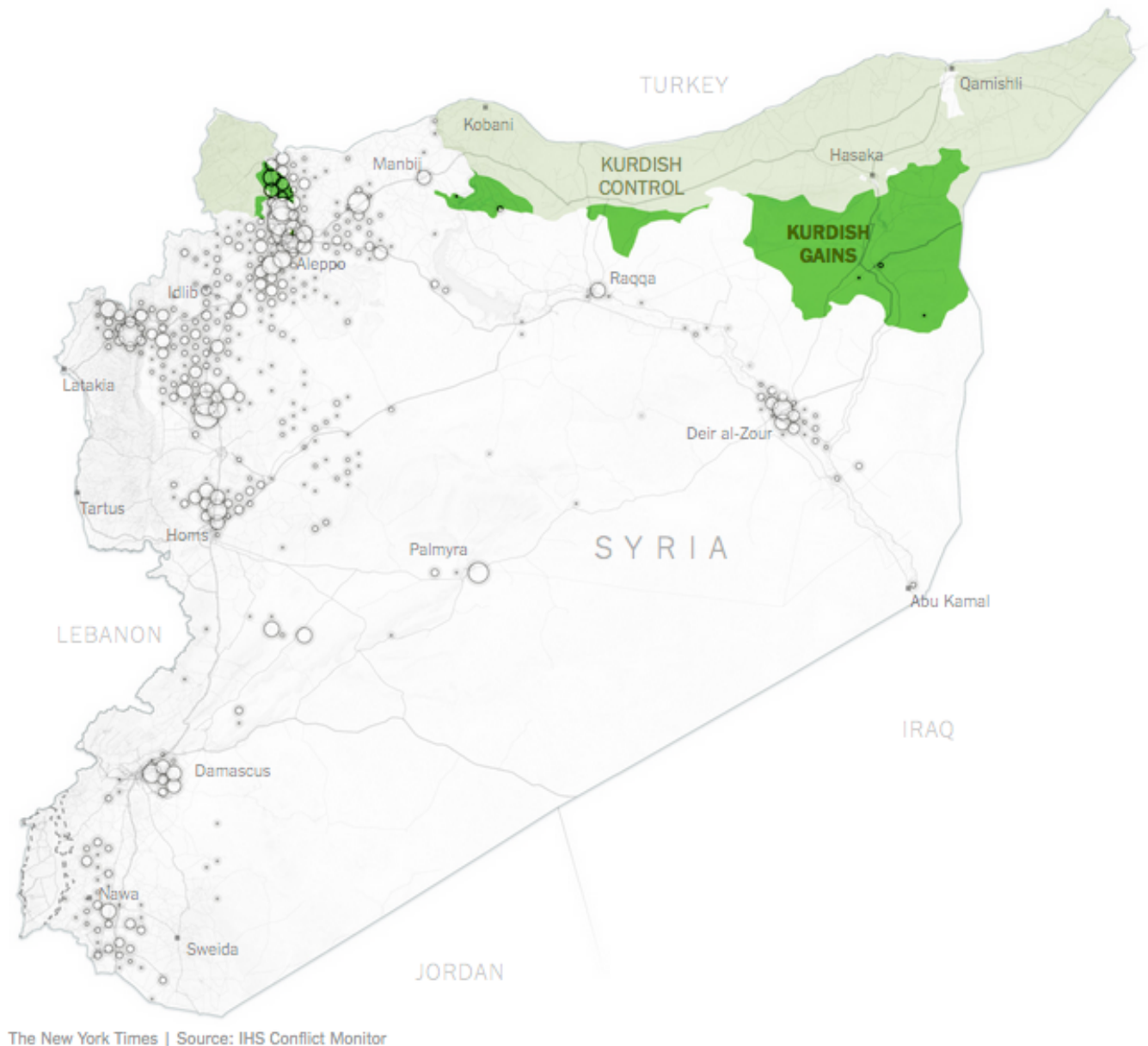
Source: NYT, IHS Conflict Monitor,
<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/17/world/middleeast/100000004272587.a.html?nyttapp=ipad&r=0>



Kurdish Gains During Russian Air Strikes

September
2015 to
March 17,
2016

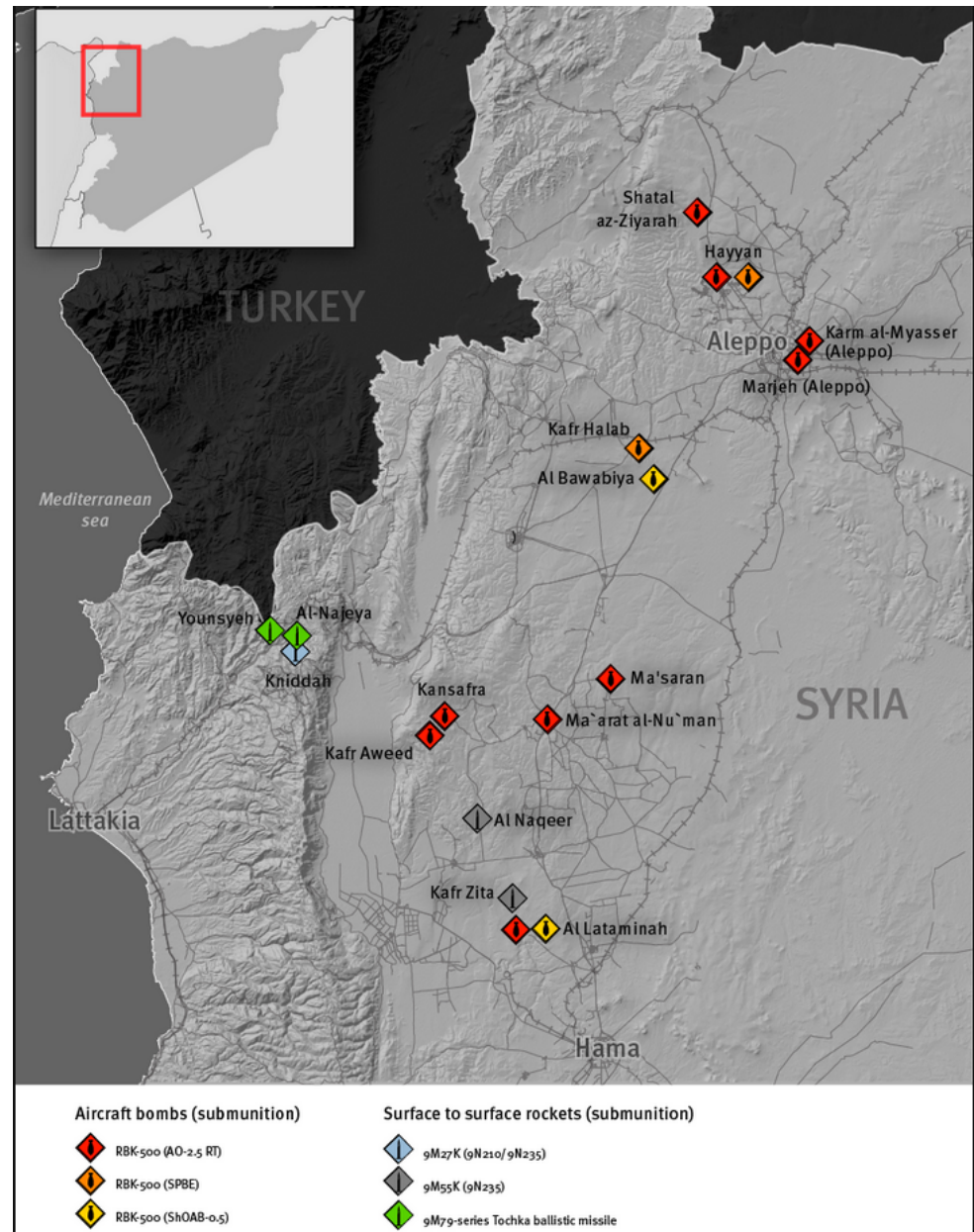
Source: NYT, IHS
Conflict Monitor,
[http://
www.nytimes.com/
interactive/
2016/03/17/world/
middleeast/
100000004272587.a
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nytap=ipad&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/03/17/world/middleeast/100000004272587.a.html?nytap=ipad&r=0)



Human Rights Watch Charges that Russia is Using Cluster Munitions: December, 2015 - I

Human Rights Watch documented that cluster munitions were used on at least 20 occasions since Syria and Russia began their joint offensive on September 30. Human Rights Watch collected detailed information about attacks in nine locations that have killed at least 35 civilians, including five women and 17 children, and injured dozens. Two attacks hit camps for the displaced. For the other attacks, Human Rights Watch obtained visual confirmation of the cluster munition used and a second source confirmed the attack. The cluster munitions used in Syria recently that Human Rights Watch was able to confirm were manufactured in the former Soviet Union or Russia.

Delivery method	Carrier type	Submunition type	Number of submunitions per carrier	Number of attacks documented
Ground-launched	9M27K/9M27K1 rocket (BM-27 Uragan)	9N210/9N235	30	1
Ground-launched	9M55K rocket (BM-30 Smerch)	9N235	72	2
Ground-launched	308 projectile	O-10	14	1
Ground-launched	9M79-series Tochka ballistic missile	9N24	50	2
Air-dropped	RBK-500 bomb	AO-2.5 RT/RTM	108	10
Air-dropped	RBK-500 bomb	ShOAB-0.5	565	2
Air-dropped	RBK-500 bomb	SPBE	15	2



Human Rights Watch Charges that Russia is Using Cluster Munitions - II

Date	Location	Type	Visual confirmation
October 4	Kafr Halab, Aleppo	RBK-500 bomb with SPBE submunitions	Photo: submunitions Video: mid-air dispersal
October 7	Ma'saran, Idlib	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunition remnants Video: bomb and submunition remnants
October 7	Kafr Zita, Hama	9M55K rocket with 9N235 submunitions	Video: smoke trails or rocket launch and impact. Video: sound of impact. Photo: rocket remnant.
October 9	Al-Naqeer, Idlib	9M55K rocket with 9N235 submunitions	Photo: cargo section and submunition. Video: camp, rocket remnants and submunition. Video: impact, camp and wounded.
October 13	Shatal az-Ziyarah	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2RTM submunitions	Video: collected submunitions
October 22	Hayyan, Aleppo	RBK-500 bomb with SPBE submunitions	Video: bomb and submunition remnants
October 24	Hayyan, Aleppo	RBK-500 with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunitions and submunition remnants Photo: submunition remnants

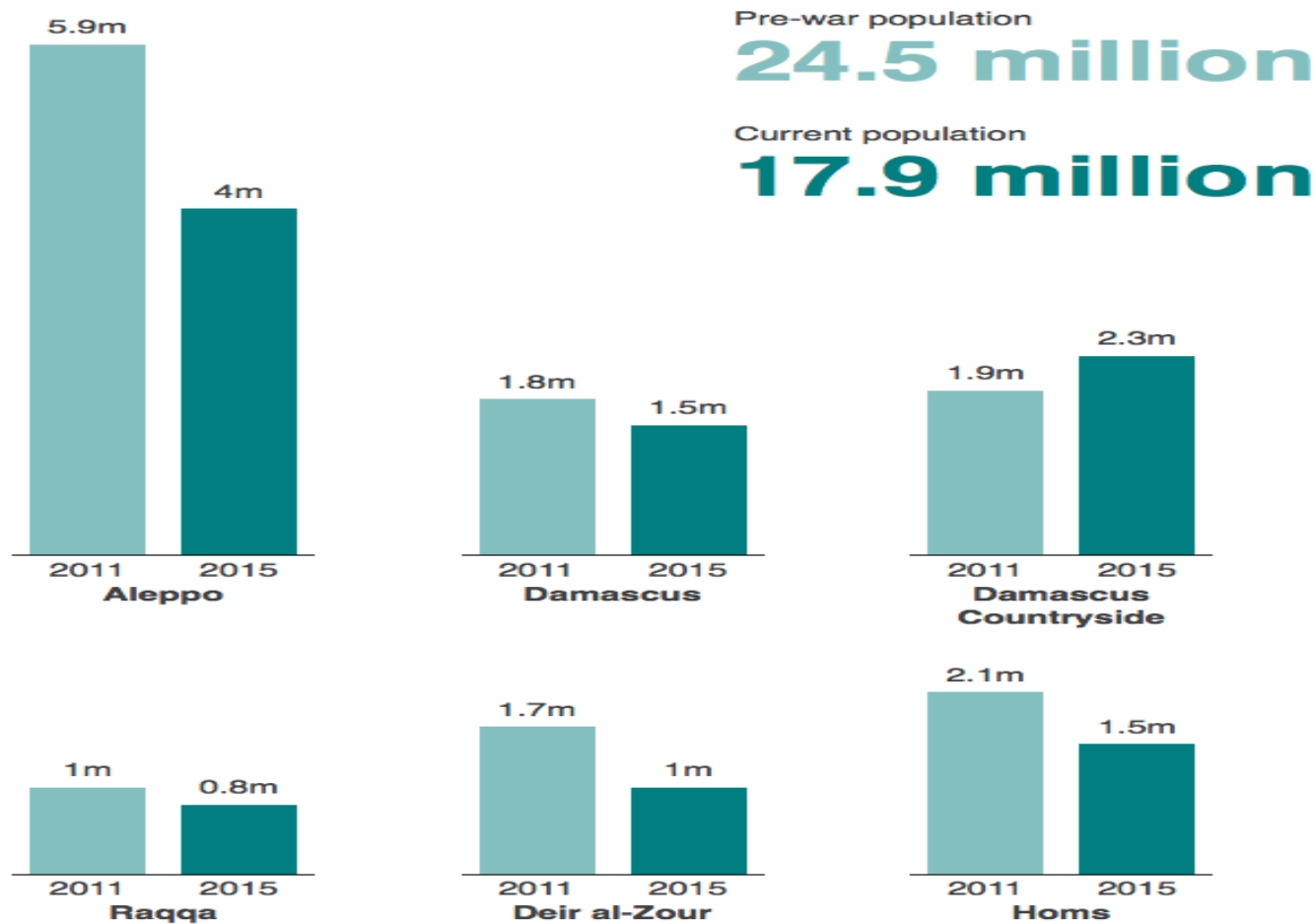
October 28	Karm al-Myasser, Aleppo city	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Photo: submunition remnants
October 28	Kansafra, Idlib	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunition remnants
October 29	Kafr Aweed, Idlib	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Photos: bomb and submunition remnants
November 9	Younsyeah, Idlib	9M79-series Tochka ballistic missile	Photos on file with HRW
November 13	Kniddah, Idlib	9M27K-series rocket with 9N210/9N235 submunitions	Photos on file with HRW
November 20	Al Bawabiya, Aleppo	RBK-500 bomb with ShOAB-0.5 submunitions	Photo: bomb and submunition remnants
November 23	Al Lataminah, Hama	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunition remnants
November 28	Al Lataminah, Hama	RBK-500 bomb with ShOAB-0.5 submunitions	Video: submunition remnants
December 3	Al-Najeya, Idlib	9M79-series Tochka ballistic missile	Photo: missile remnant
December 13	Douma, Damascus	308 cluster munition projectile with O-10 submunitions	Photo: unexploded remnants Video: submunition remnants
December 14	Marjeh district, Aleppo city	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunition remnants
December 14	Ma'arat al-Nu'man, Idlib	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Photo: bomb and submunition remnants
December 14	Douma, Damascus	RBK-500 bomb with AO-2.5RT submunitions	Video: submunition remnants

Source: Human Rights Watch, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2015/12/20/russia/syria-extensive-recent-use-cluster-munitions>

Governance, Economic, and Humanitarian Impacts in Syria

Who Remains in Syria?: 3.2016

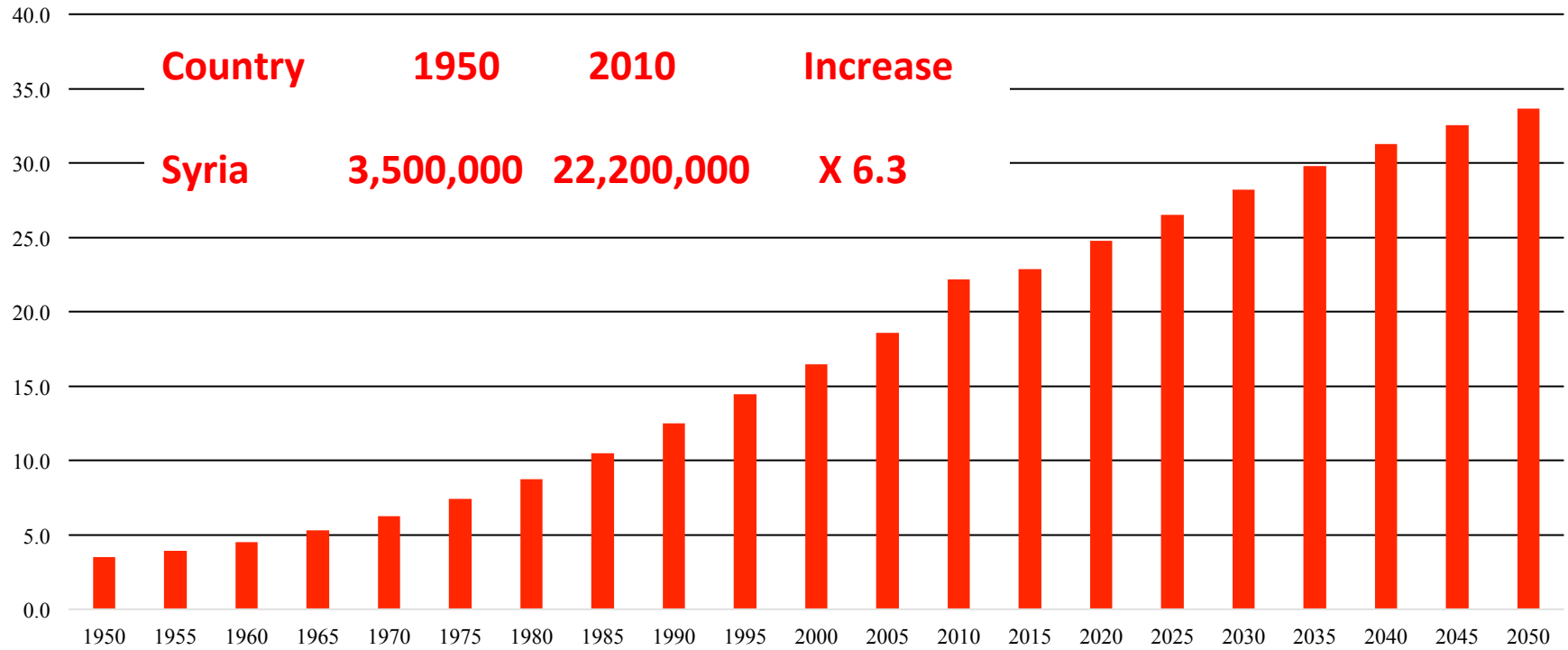
(UN says 13.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, with 4.5 million of those in hard-to-reach and besieged areas like Deir al-Zour.)



Source: UNOCHA

Demographic Pressures on Syria (Pre-War Estimate)

Syria Total Population (in millions)

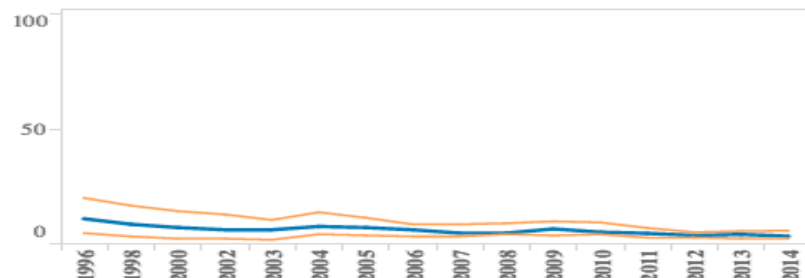


	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Total Population (millions)	3.5	3.9	4.5	5.3	6.3	7.4	8.8	10.5	12.5	14.4	16.5	18.6	22.2	22.9	24.7	26.5	28.2	29.8	31.3	32.6	33.7
Population Growth Rate (percent)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.6%	3.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.3%	2.0%	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%
Total Annual Births (millions)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4

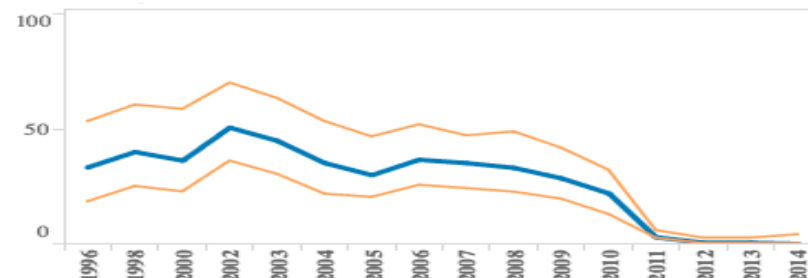
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base (IDB),
<http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/informationGateway.php>, Accessed May 20, 2015.

World Bank Rankings of Failed Governance in Syria - I

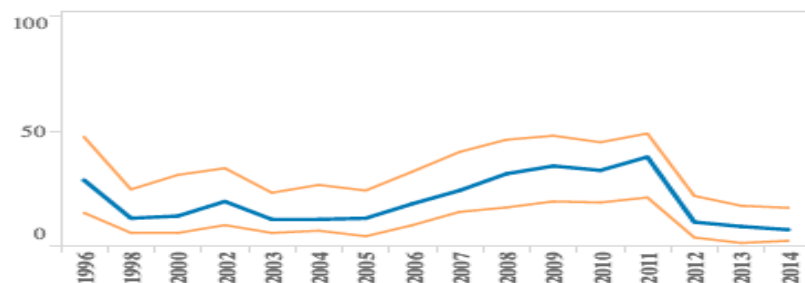
Voice and Accountability



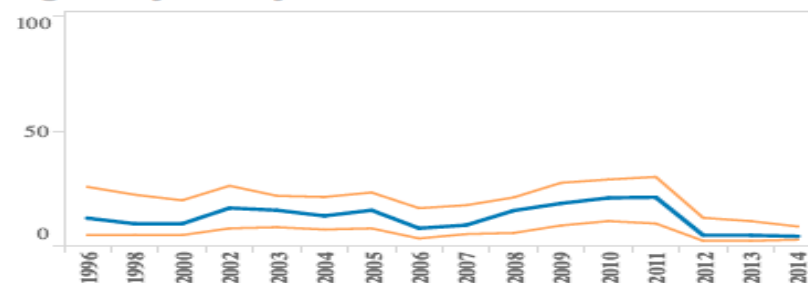
Political Stability and Absence of Violence



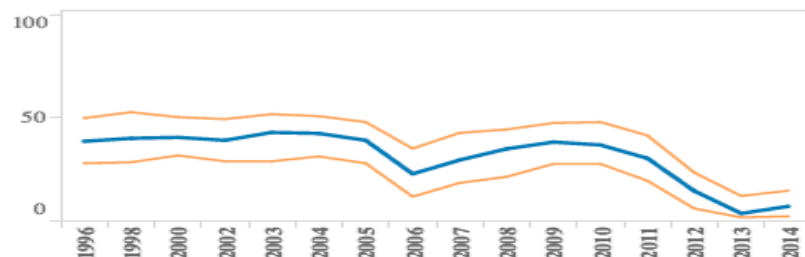
Government Effectiveness



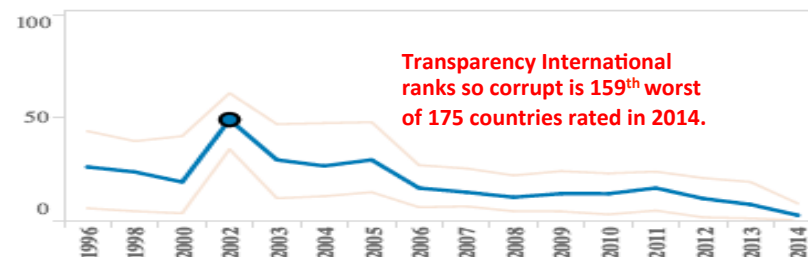
Regulatory Quality



Rule of Law



Control of Corruption



The inner, thicker blue line shows the selected country's percentile rank on each of the six aggregate governance indicators. The outer, thinner red lines show the indicate margins of error.

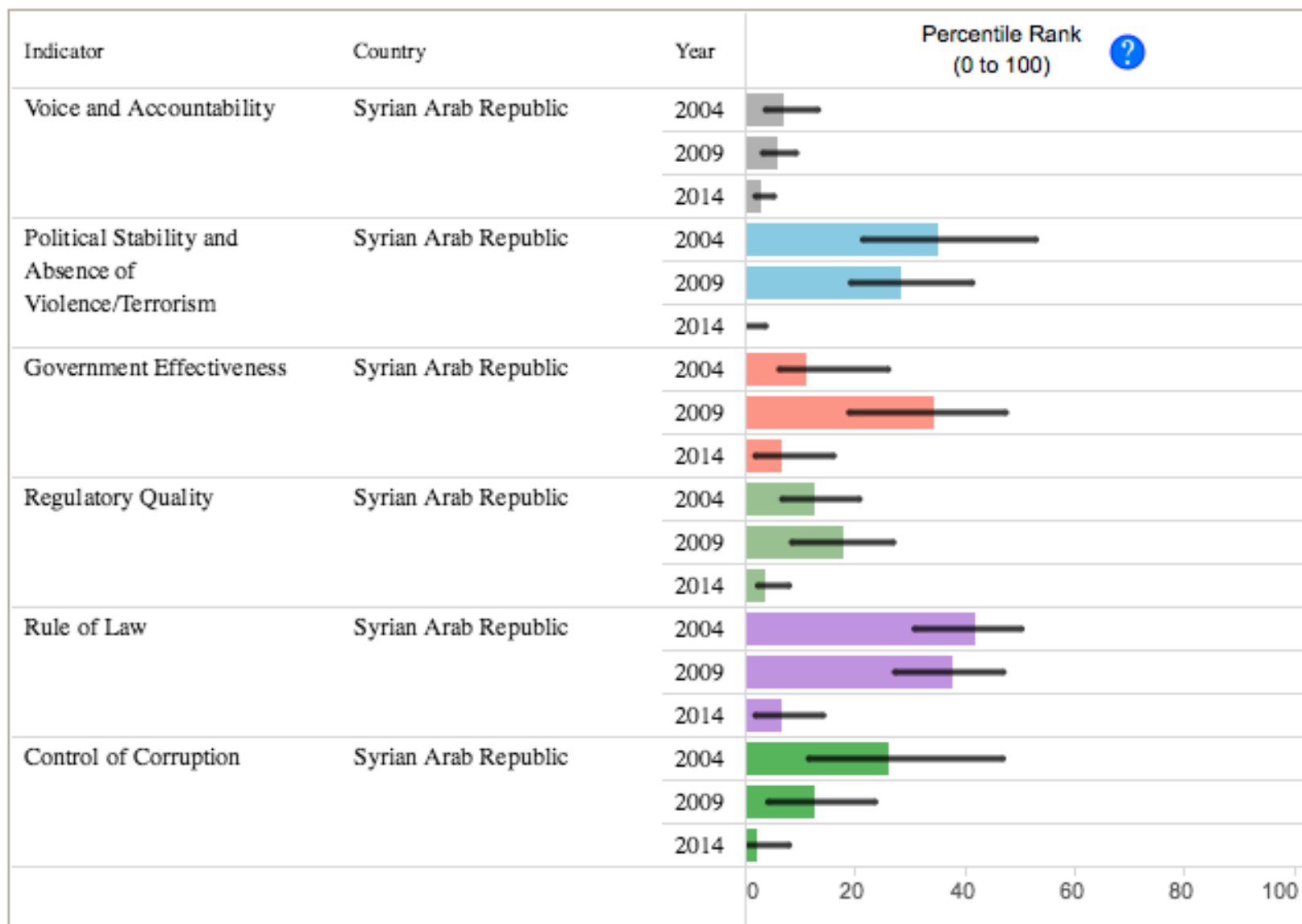
Source: [Kaufmann D., A. Kraay, and M. Mastruzzi \(2010\). The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical Issues.](#)

The Worldwide Governance Indicators are available at: www.govindicators.org

Note: The Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) are a research dataset summarizing the views on the quality of governance provided by a large number of enterprise, citizen and expert survey respondents in industrial and developing countries. These data are gathered from a number of survey institutes, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and private sector firms. The WGI do not reflect the official views of the World Bank, its Executive Directors, or the countries they represent. The WGI are not used by the World Bank Group to allocate resources.

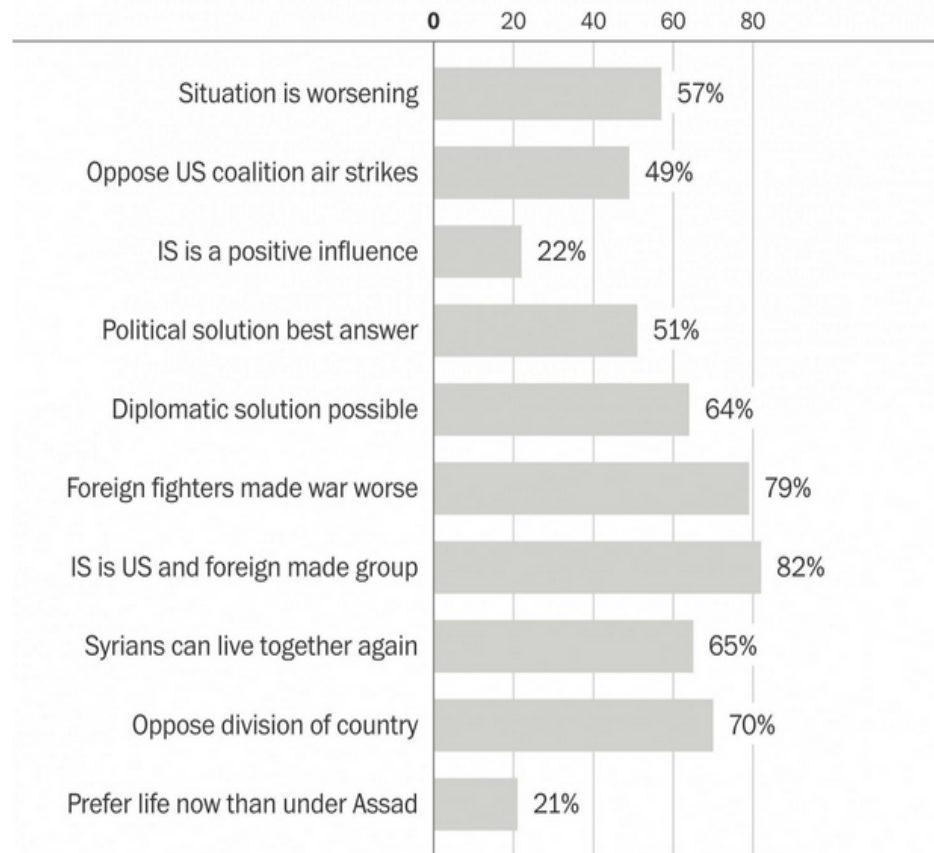
World Bank, World Wide Governance Indicators, Syria: <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#reports>.

World Bank Rankings of Failed Governance in Syria - II



Syrian Attitudes About the Fighting: July 2015

How Syrians feel about their 4-year conflict



Source: ORB International

THE WASHINGTON POST

A recent survey of 1,365 Syrians from all 14 governorates of the country found some surprising attitudes.

Consider this: A fifth of those interviewed said the Islamic State -- the brutal Islamist group known for its beheadings, that rules over large swaths of Syria and Iraq -- is a *positive* influence on the country.

And 82 percent said that they believe the Islamic State was created by the United States and its allies.

The Syria survey was conducted by ORB International, a U.K.-based market research firm, from June 10 to July 2. The poll has a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points.

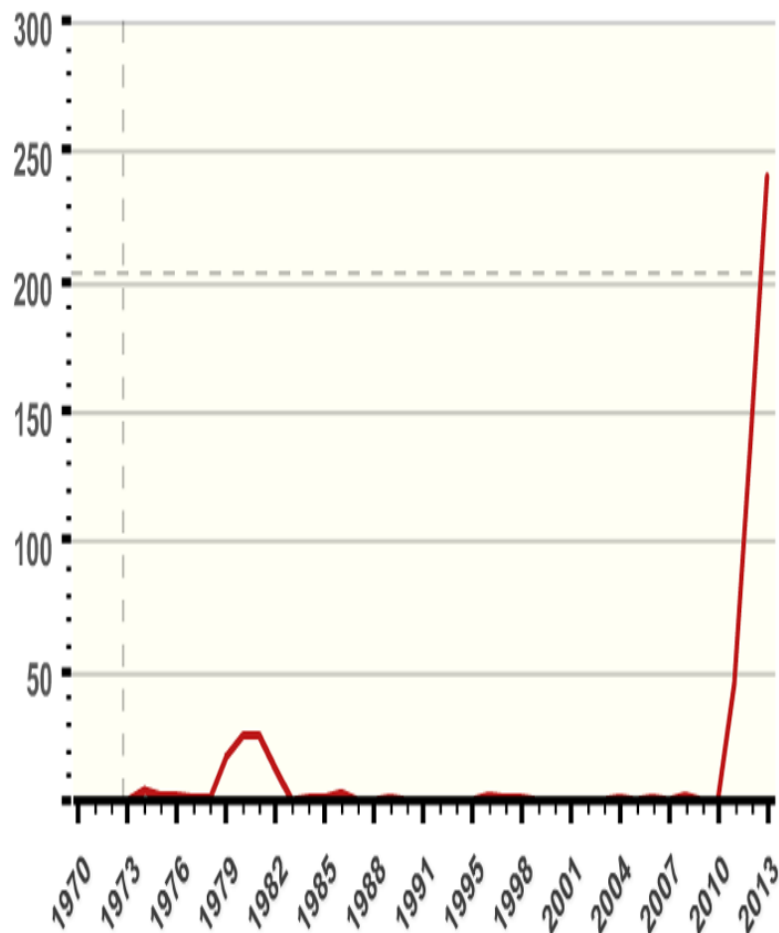
The majority of Syrians interviewed said they believe that the situation is worsening, and only 21 percent said they preferred their life today than when Syria was fully controlled by Bashar al-Assad's regime.

Nearly half of Syrians surveyed said they opposed U.S.-coalition airstrikes, and nearly 80 percent said that the war has gotten worse because of the influx of foreign fighters.

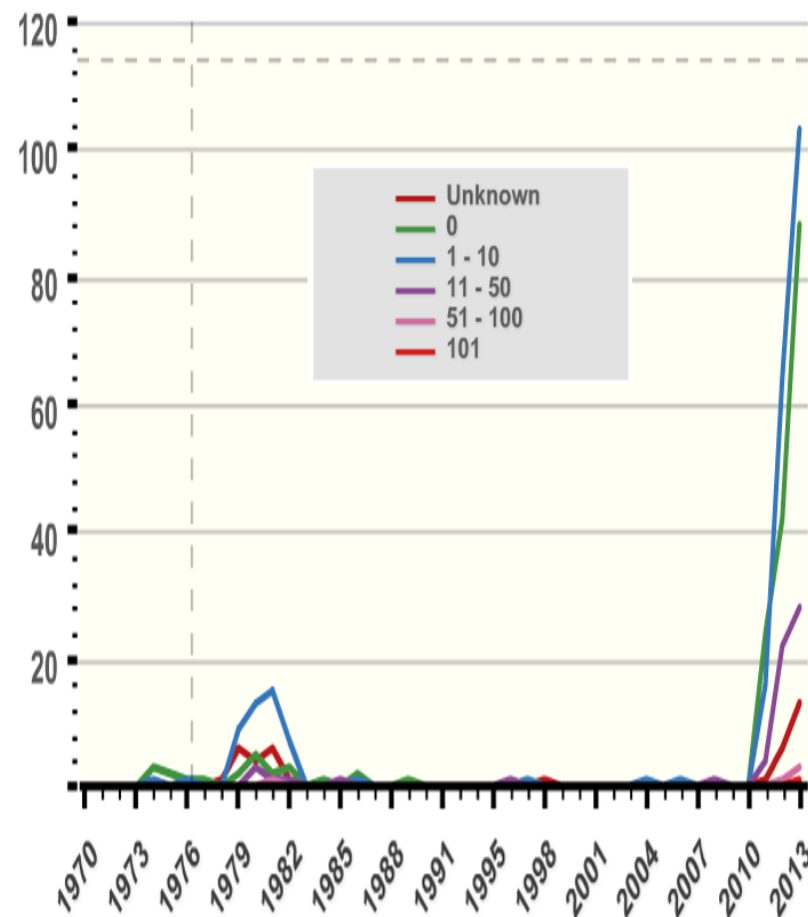
Yet there is also sense of hope: The majority of Syrians surveyed said a diplomatic solution was possible to end the war, and that Syrians can set aside their difference and live side by side again.

Rise in Terrorism in Syria

Syria – Terrorist Incidents



Syria - Fatalities



Source: START Global Terrorism Database, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>

Syrian Terrorism Deaths: I



GTI RANK | **5**
GTI SCORE | **8.108**

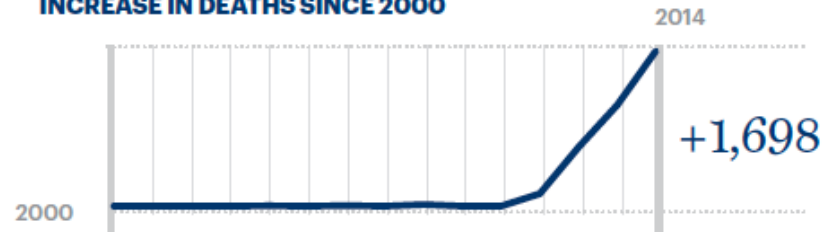
INCIDENTS  232

PROPERTY DAMAGE  301

DEAD             1,698

INJURED           1,473

INCREASE IN DEATHS SINCE 2000



ATTACKS BY TARGET

-  Private citizens & property
-  Business
-  Military, militia or terrorist groups
-  Religious
-  Other



DEATHS BY GROUP

-  Unknown
-  Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)
-  Al-Nusrah Front
-  Other



Syrian Terrorism Deaths: II

The continual impact of terrorism in Syria is a direct result of the Syrian civil war. There were no recorded acts of terrorism in the two years prior to the civil war commencing in 2011. In 2014 there were 1,690 deaths compared to 600 in 2012. Most of the deaths in Syria are accounted for as battlefield deaths.

The present-day civil war in Syria began in March of 2011 as protests against President Bashar-al-Assad's government. These protests were similar to the various democratic uprisings occurring throughout the Arab region since December 2010, known as the Arab Spring. In several of the Arab Spring nations, the uprisings led to the toppling of some authoritarian leaders, but in the case of Syria the Assad regime aggressively responded to the demonstrations, which unwound into civil war. From its inception, the core of the opposition has been the Free Syrian Army, with many other groups entering the war and establishing themselves as opposition forces, including Islamist rebel groups such as ISIL and the al-Nusra Front.

It is estimated that over 200,000 people have been killed in the civil war. The majority of these deaths are classified as a result of conventional warfare rather than acts of terrorism. However, terrorism has been deployed as a tactic by some of the rebel forces to bring about a political, economic, religious, or social goal rather than purely military objectives.

As of September 2015, there are 4.1 million Syrian refugees and 6.5 million people displaced within Syria. Many have fled to nearby countries, with a growing number fleeing to Europe, underlining the worldwide spill-over effects of the Syrian civil war.

A quarter of terrorist attacks in Syria are from unknown perpetrators. The biggest terrorist group in Syria is ISIL who killed 615 people, or 36 per cent. The second biggest group, the Sunni and al-Qa'ida linked al-Nusra Front, claimed responsibility for 27 per cent of deaths or 461 people.

Whilst there were terrorist attacks in 76 cities in 2014, over half of all attacks occurred in just four cities. Damascus, the capital and second largest city in Syria, had 37 attacks which resulted in 63 deaths. Homs recorded the most fatalities with 345, representing 20 per cent of total deaths from terrorism in Syria.

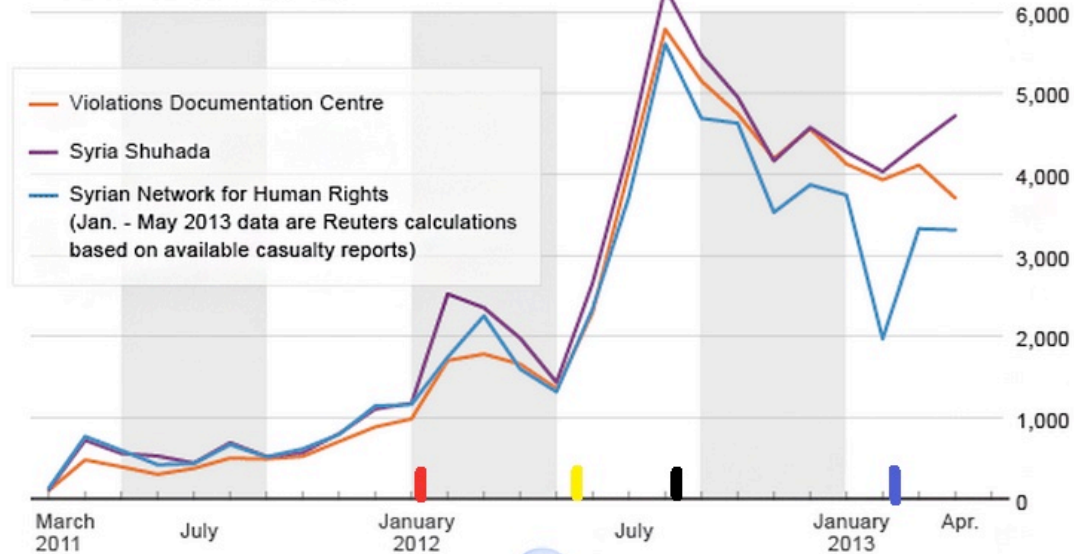
Palmyra, an area 215 kilometres north-east of Damascus, had 310 deaths. Palmyra has also seen many sites of historical significance destroyed by ISIL, including the Temple of Bel which was nearly 2000 years old. The largest city of Aleppo had 23 attacks which resulted in 193 deaths. Kobani in northern Syria near the border with Turkey had 34 attacks resulting in 71 deaths.

Most deaths from terrorism in Syria have been from bombings. Bombings can be extremely deadly. There were two bombings in 2014 which killed more than 50 people and at least 19 bombings that killed ten or more people. Private citizens are the target of 53 per cent of attacks, with 475 people being killed. There were at least 30 different kidnapping incidents which resulted in 382 deaths. This includes two American journalists, James Foley and Steven Sotloff, who were kidnapped in Syria and murdered by ISIL in late 2014.

Comparative Casualty per Month Estimate: 2011-2013

The opposition Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported that least 82,000 people have been killed after two years of civil war in Syria. The number of casualties documented by opposition activist groups vary.

CASUALTIES BY MONTH
From select activist groups



Source: Reuters, https://www.google.com/search?q=trend+graphs+for+Syrian+casualties&tbm=isch&imgil=YGiffJlki6As0M%253A%253Baacmvbd6LOjViM%253Bhttp%25253A%252F%25252F6storiesfromthe7continents.blogspot.com%25252F2013_06_01_archive.html&source=iu&pf=m&fir=YGiffJlki6As0M%253A%252Caacmvbd6LOjViM%252C_&biw=1491&bih=976&ved=0CDAQyjdqFQoTCMej89jlgMgCFUtzjgodOTALSg&ei=XQL8VYeBNcvmuQS54KzQBA&usg=__twkWLlmgNnRRmq_WnWQeP81oQ%3D#imgrc=Zmg7LcF3vwoiOM%3A&usg=__twkWLlmgNnRRmq_WnWQeP81oQ%3D

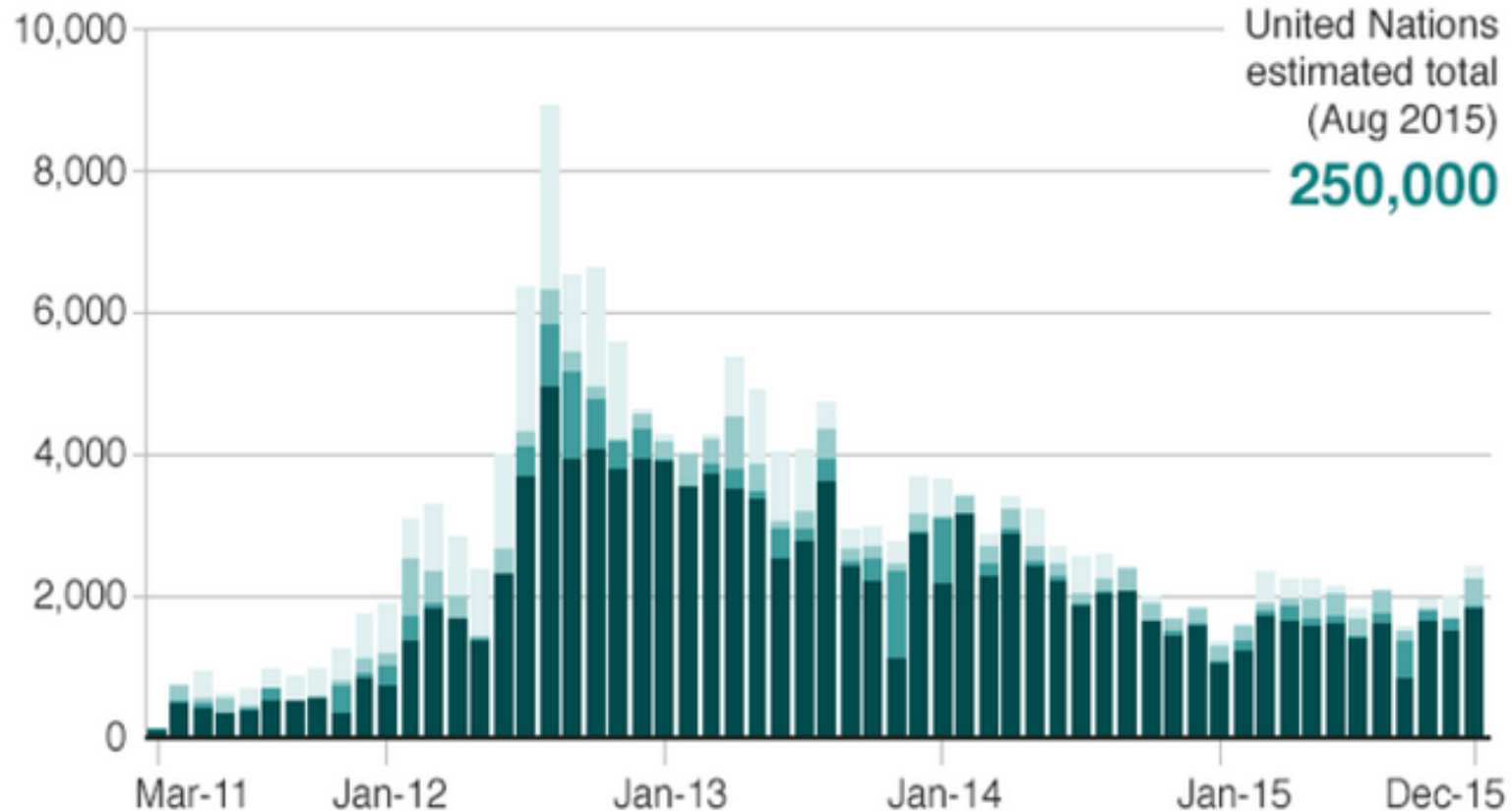
- First shipments of arms from Qatar, according to The New York Times
- 'Significantly more and better weapons' start to be sent in by Gulf states and US, according to The Washington Post.
- CIA begins to 'limit supplies of weapons . . . reaching rebel forces', according to The Times.
- Gulf states and U.S. begin to 'sharply increase their military aid to Syrias opposition fighters', according to The New York Times.

BBC Estimate of Syria Death Toll: 2.2016

Syria conflict death toll

Documented killings per month

Number of sources for each killing ■ 4 ■ 3 ■ 2 ■ 1

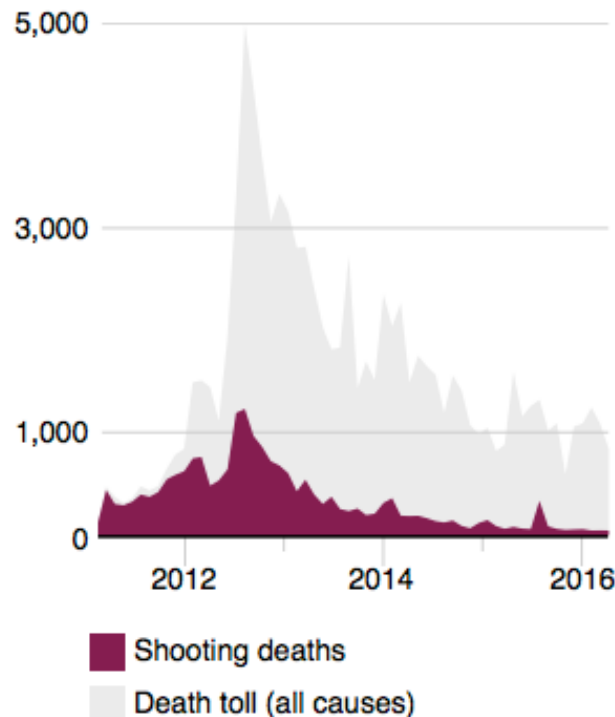


Sources: Violations Documentation Center, Syrian Shuhada, Syrian Network for Human Rights, Syrian Center for Statistics and Research

BBC Estimate of Causes of Syrian Deaths : 3.2016

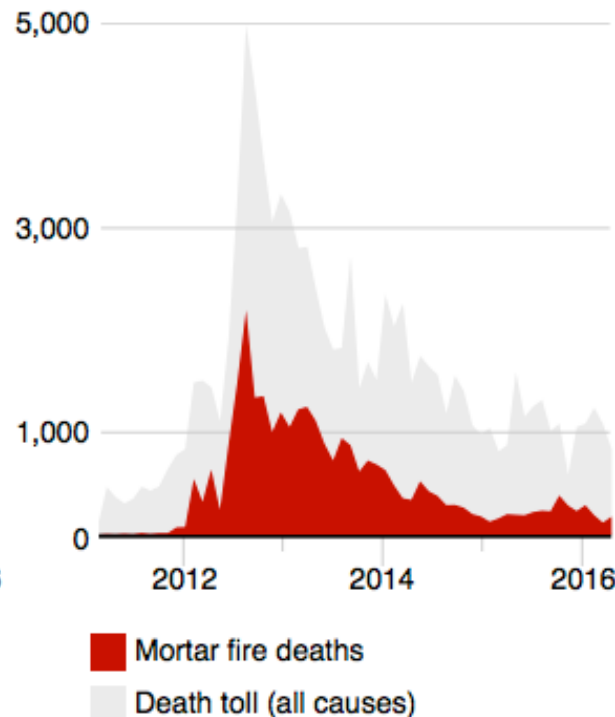
1. Shootings

What began as peaceful protests against the government in March 2011 turned violent after security forces used deadly force against civilians.



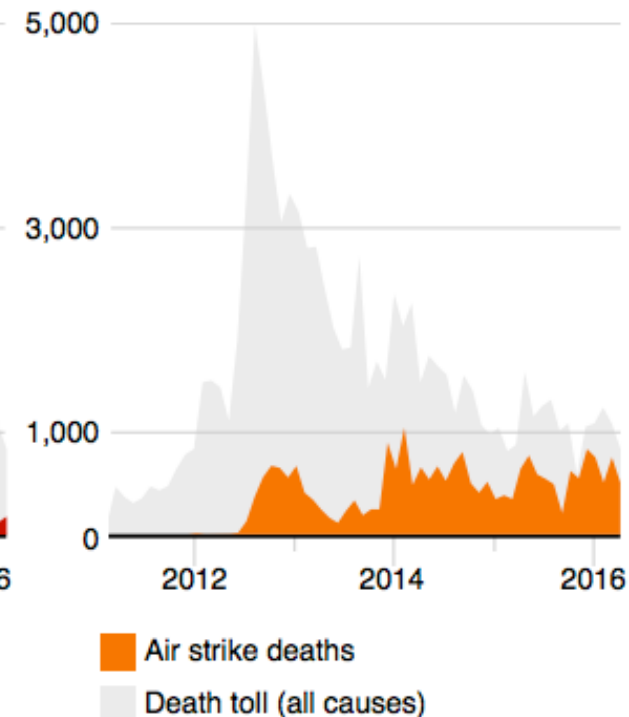
2. Mortar fire

The bloodiest period of the conflict came in 2012, as the killing became more systematic and mortar attacks claimed a higher proportion of lives.



3. Air strikes

Losing ground, the regime began aerial attacks, causing mass casualties. Since Sept 2015, Russian air strikes are also alleged to have killed many civilians.

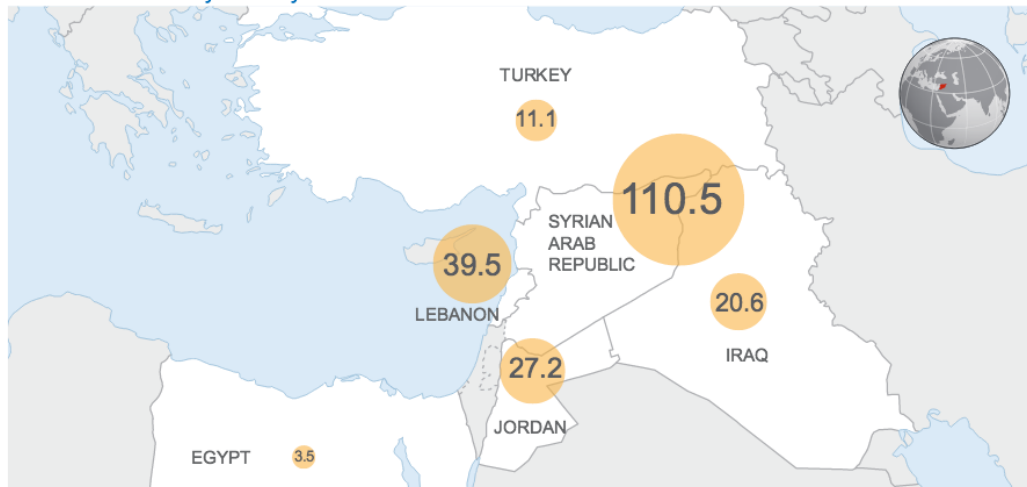


Source: Violations Documentation Center

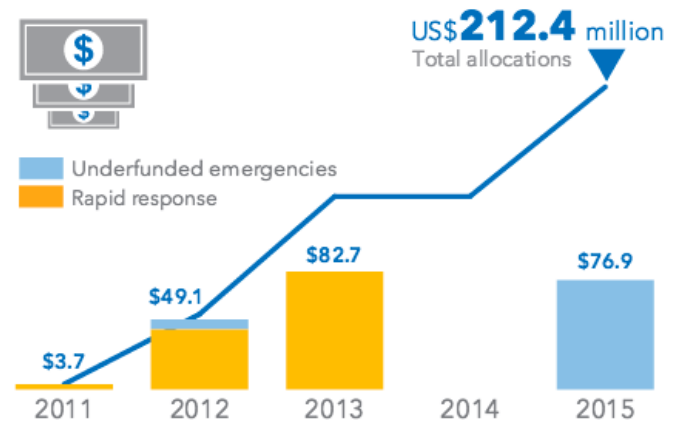
Status of Syrian Crisis: UN CERF-funded response 2011-2015

As of 17 December 2015

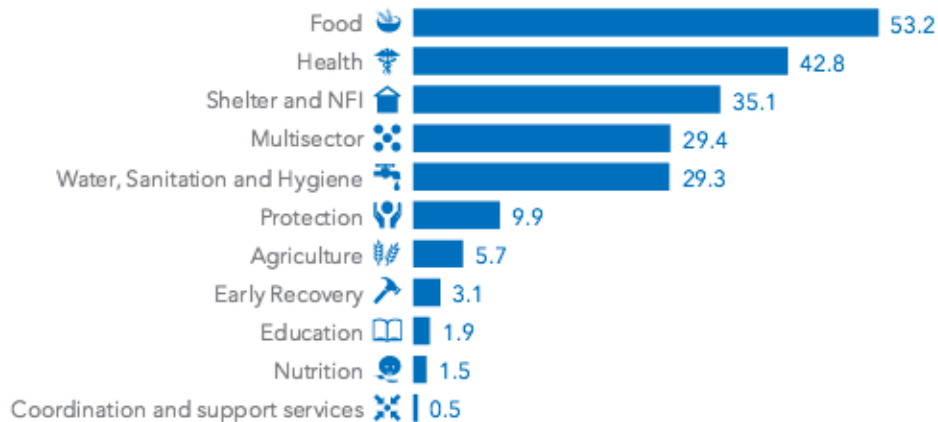
CERF allocations by country (in US\$ million)



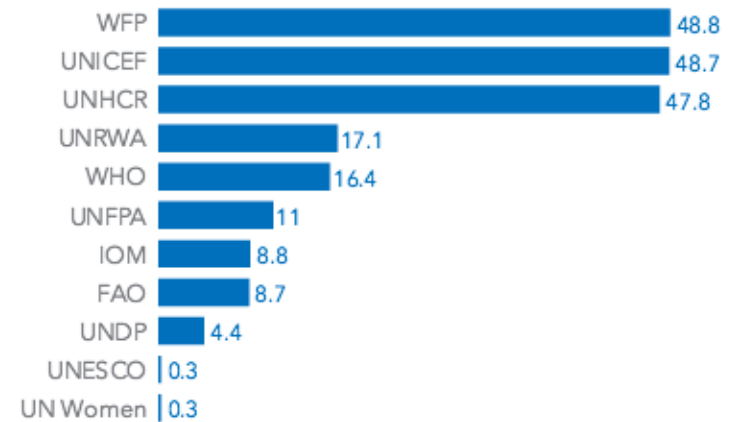
CERF allocations 2011-2015



CERF allocations by sector (in US\$ million)

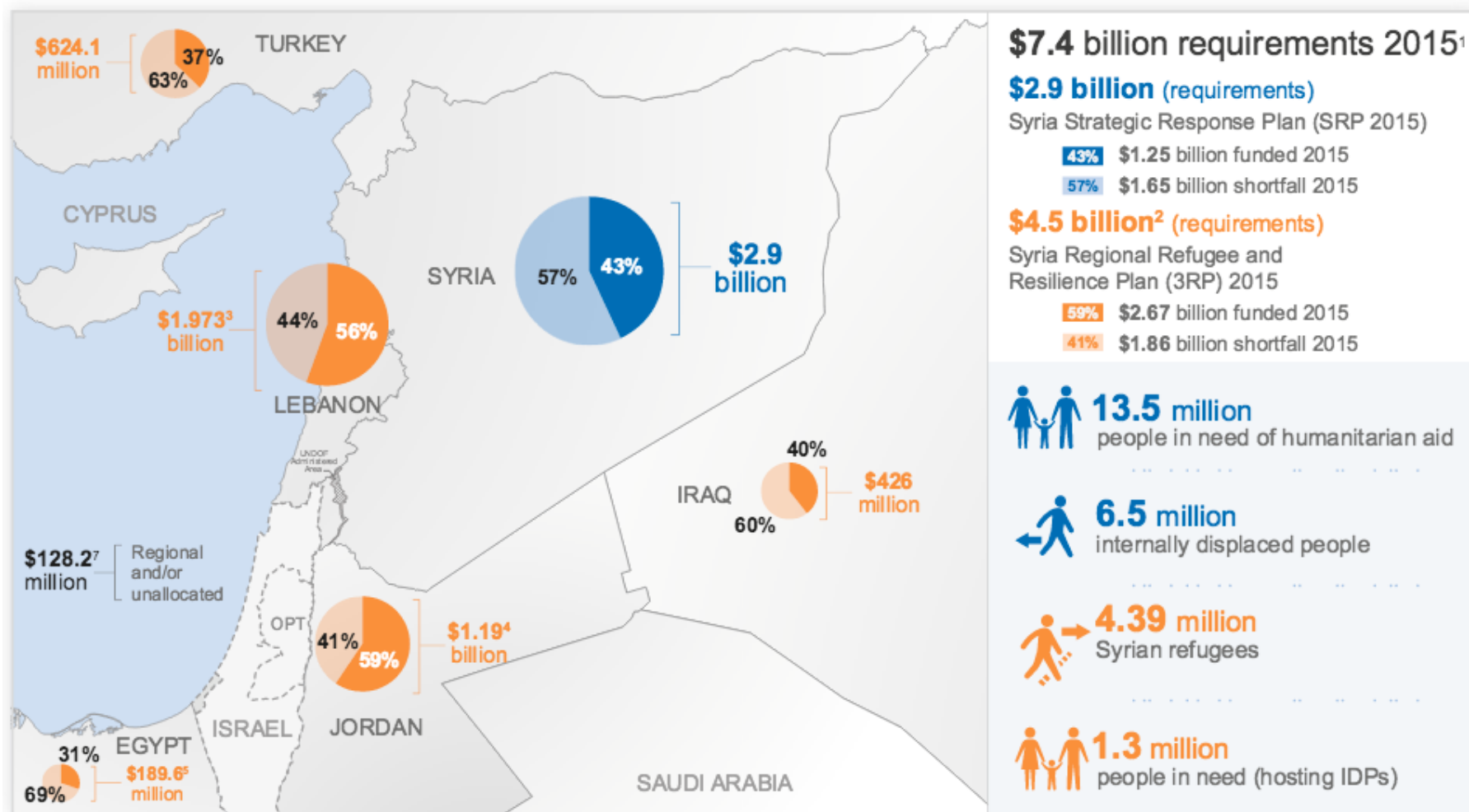


CERF allocations by agency (in US\$ million)



The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is managed by United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), receives voluntary contributions year-round from United Nations Member States and Observers, regional governments, private sector, foundations and individuals.

Syrian Crisis Humanitarian Funding Requirements in 2015



Syrian Crisis Humanitarian Donors and Spending in 2015

Top 20 Donors (SRP and 3RP) 2015

(million \$)

	3RP	SRP	others
United States	703.9	314.5	546.8
United Kingdom	254.3	259.6	113
Germany	394.8	35.7	74.3
European Commission	273.9	83.5	130.8
Kuwait	168.2	103.6	41.7
Netherlands	151	19.2	26.2
Canada	107.7	27.2	37.7
Norway	56.3	35.2	55.5
Japan	93.3	24.3	22.2
Private (individuals & organisations)	54.4	20.4	44.5
Switzerland	27.3	19.6	47.5
Saudi Arabia	5.8	10.1	67.9
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	46.2	29.9	1.3
Denmark	39.5	13.2	18.1
Sweden	30.4	14.1	8.9
Belgium	21.7	20.5	11.1
United Arab Emirates	0	0	44.5
Australia	23.8	5.6	11.9
France	25.5	0	7.1
Finland	10.6	11.3	3.4
Various (details not yet provided)	20.4	0	2.3
Allocation of unearmarked funds by UN agencies	12.4	35	55.3
Carry-over (donors not specified)	111.9	122.3	4.8

3RP is total Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan 2015-2016

Syria Strategic Response Plan (SRP 2015) by Sector

(million \$)

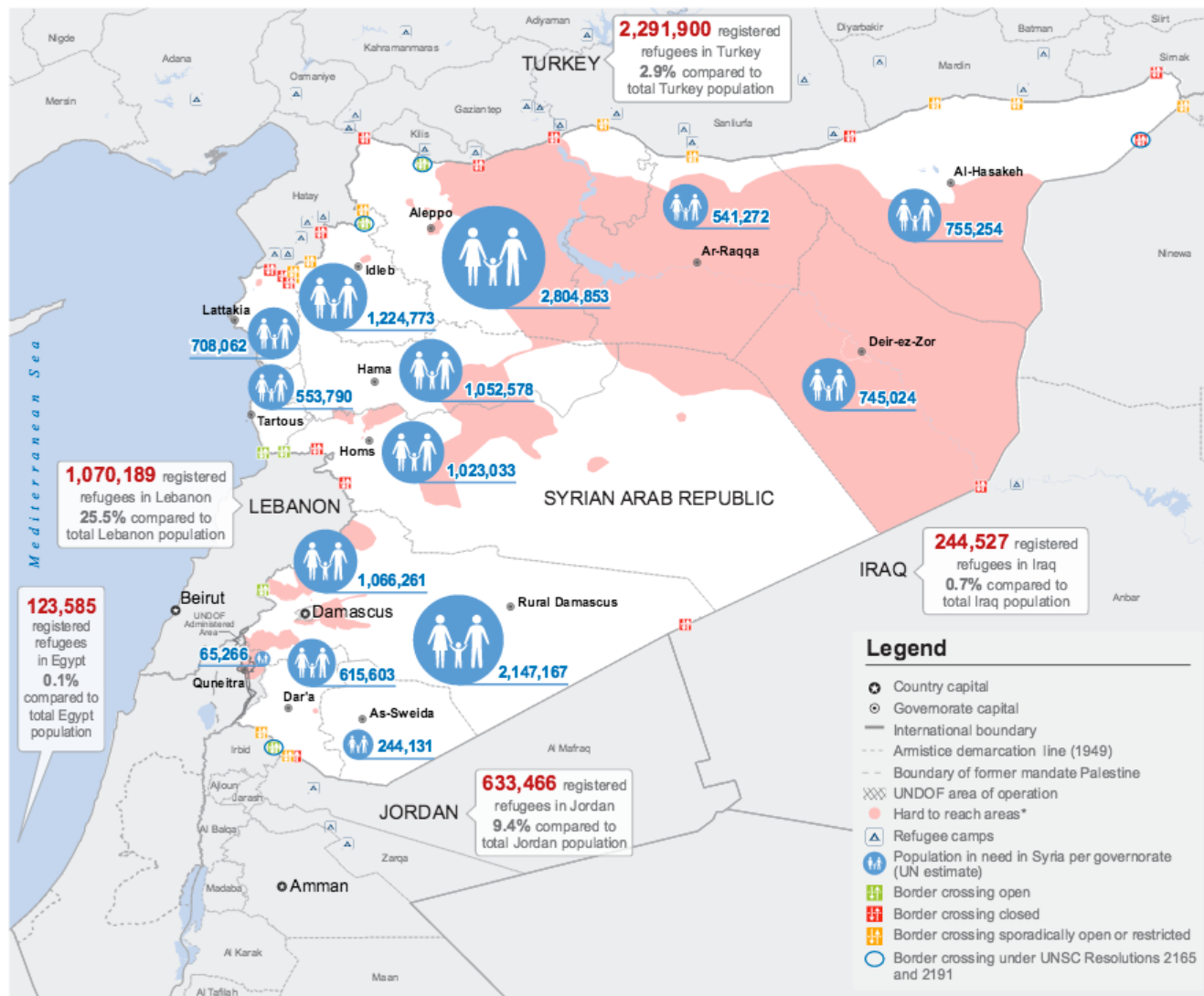
	Funded	Unmet	Requirements
FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE	574.7	643.3	1,218
NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs) AND SHELTER	145.3	494.2	639.5
HEALTH	111.2	206.7	317.9
EDUCATION	45.7	178.3	224
WASH	70.1	98.8	168.9
PROTECTION	25.5	79.3	104.8
EARLY RECOVERY AND LIVELIHOODS	27.7	74.6	102.3
COORDINATION	45.6	17	62.6
NUTRITION	9.1	41.6	50.7
CCCM	0	12.2	12.2
LOGISTICS	3.6	6.2	9.8
ETC	0.6	0.7	1.3
CLUSTER NOT YET SPECIFIED	188.9		

Source : FTS 31 Dec 2015

- 1- Total requirement
- 2- Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan 2015-2016 (3RP), excluding the total requirements mentioned in footnotes 3, 4 and 5
- 3- Overall a \$1.87 billion request. This excludes the requirements of the Government of Lebanon: Ministry of Education and Higher Education (USD 22,600,000), Ministry of Energy and Water (USD 22,200,000), Ministry of Agriculture (USD 6,000,000), Ministry of Public Health (USD 33,000,000) and Ministry of Social Affairs (USD 85,540,068). The total USD 169,340,068 is broken down by USD 53,267,607 for the Refugee component and USD 116,072,461 for the Resilience component.
- 4- Excluding the direct budget support of the Government of Jordan.
- 5- Excluding the requirements of the Government of Egypt: Ministry of Education (USD 102,000,000) and the Ministry of Health (USD 88,182,000). The total USD 190,182,000 is broken down by USD 104,682,000 for the Refugee component and USD 85,500,000 for the Resilience component.
- 6- Funding has not been allocated yet to a specific sector by agencies and would increase the funding for certain sectors once agencies have a breakdown available.
- 7- Includes funds received for: Syria and neighboring countries, UN agencies for some 3RP activities and UN agency funds not yet allocated to specific country programmes.

Feedback: Regional Office for the Syria Crisis (ocharosyn@un.org)

Source: OCHA, http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/regional_funding_update_31dec2015.pdf.



4,390,439 Registered Syrian refugees

(including **26,772** refugees registered in other countries in North Africa)

13.5 million

People in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria

Internally Displaced Persons by Governorate

6,563,462 Internally Displaced Persons**

Rural Damascus	1,269,202
Aleppo	1,246,968
Idleb	704,511
Homs	526,510
Hama	500,801
Damascus	436,170
Latakia	377,974
Dara	320,773
Deir-ez-Zor	318,684
Al-Hasakeh	301,618
Tartous	258,505
Ar-Raqqah	201,350
As-Sweida	61,696
Quneitra	38,700

*Hard-to-reach area: An area that is not regularly accessible to humanitarian actors for the purposes of sustained humanitarian programming as a result of denial of access, including the need to negotiate access on an ad hoc basis, or due to restrictions such as active conflict, multiple security checkpoints, or failure of the authorities to provide timely approval.

** 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview

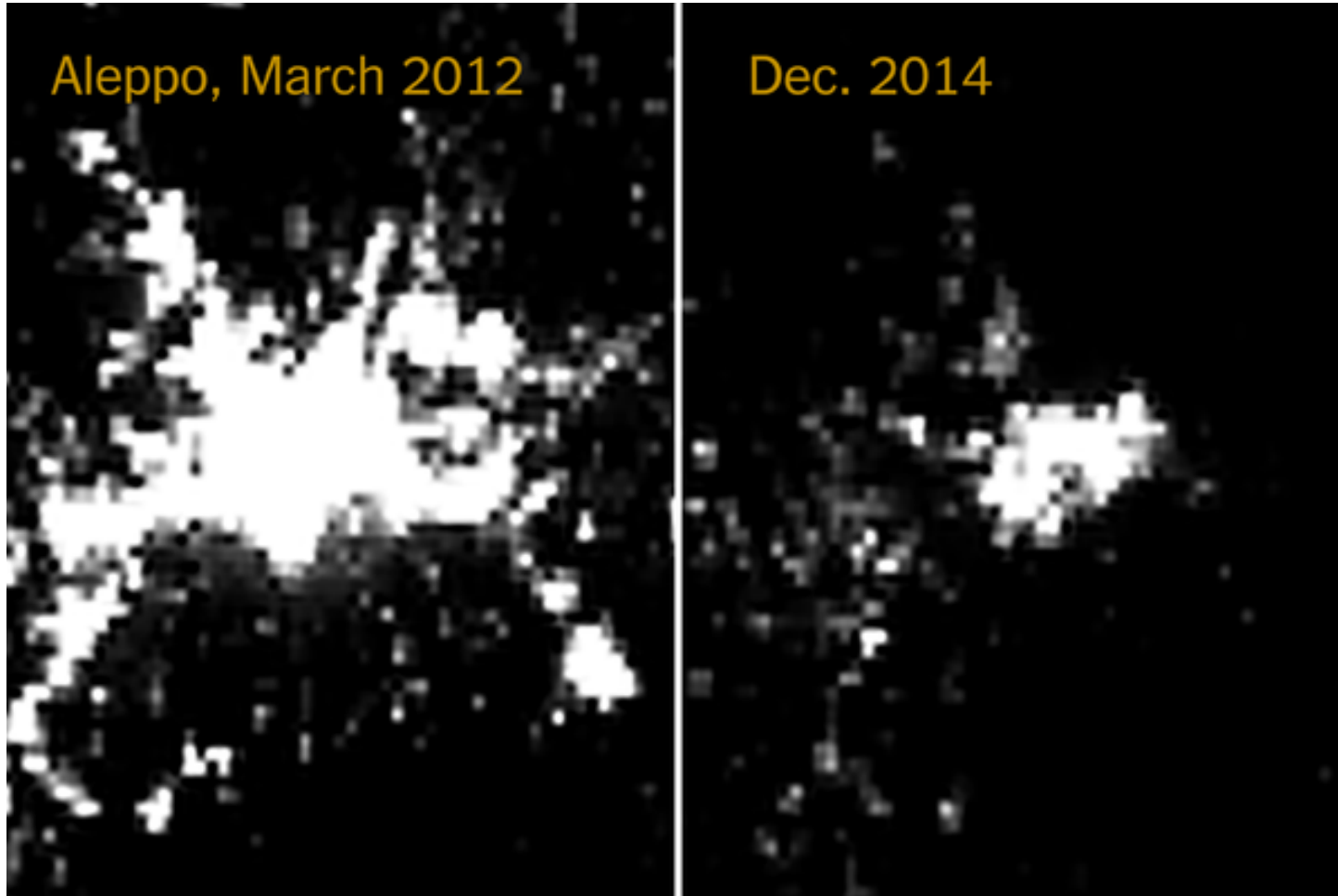
The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Sources: OCHA, UNCS, UNHCR

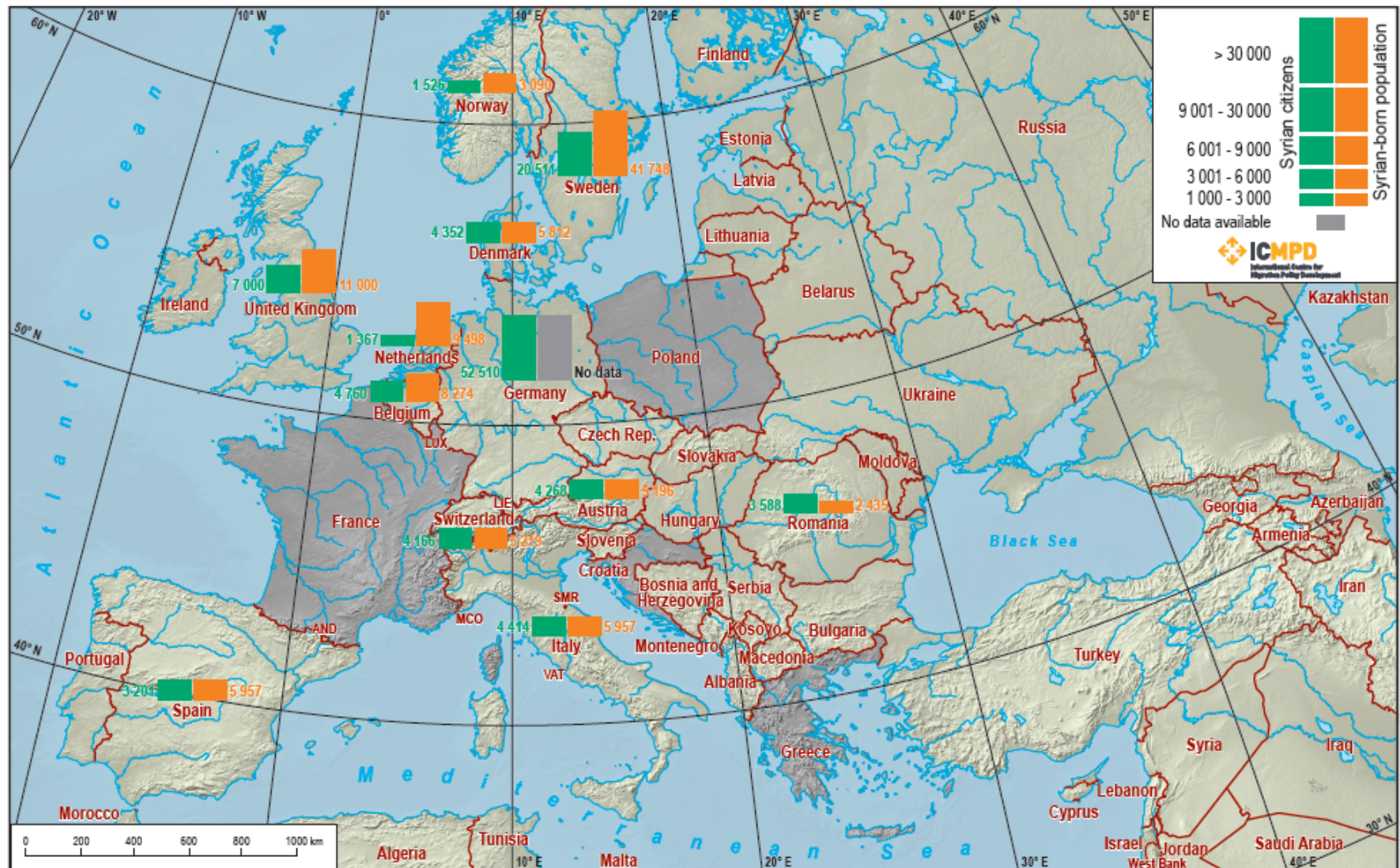
Feedback: Regional Office for the Syria Crisis (ochasyr@un.org)

Creation date: 4 January 2016

Syria: The Lights Go Out in Aleppo: 3/2012-12/2014

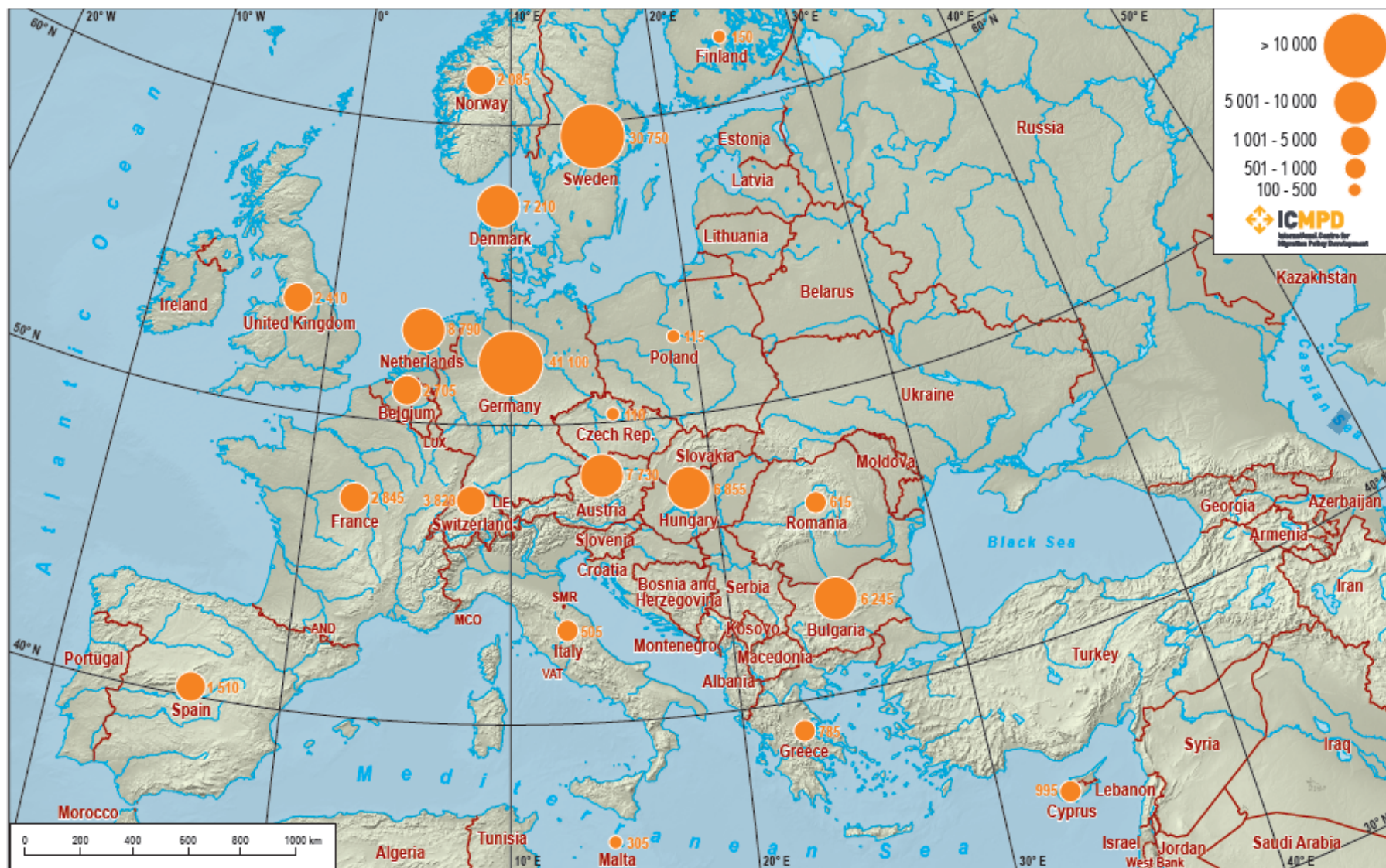


Syrian Citizens and Syrian-born Population: 2014



Source: EUROSTAT (latest update: 17 April 2015), Statistics Austria, and the UK Office for National Statistics (data available only for 2013). Map includes EU 28 as well as Switzerland and Norway. No data was available for Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Malta, and Poland. In the cases of Germany, Ireland, and Portugal data was available on Syrian citizens but not on the Syrian-born population. The map only includes the top 10 countries in the categories Syrian citizens and Syrian-born population.

Asylum applications of Syrian Citizens : 2014



Source: EUROSTAT (latest update: 01 April 2015).
Data includes asylum and new asylum applicants by citizenship; only included if > 100

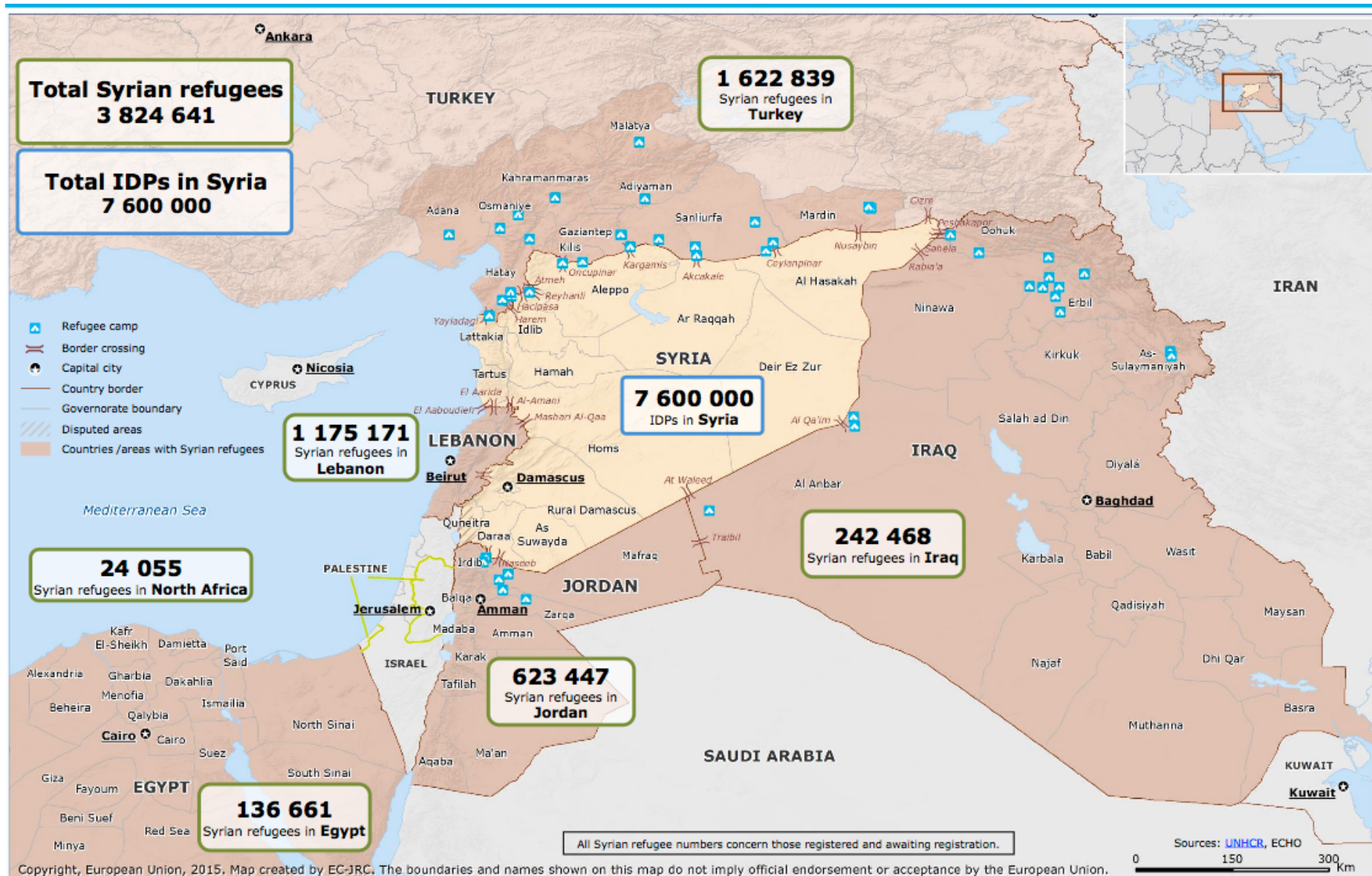
Syrian Refugees, Asylum Seekers and IDPs : 2014-2015



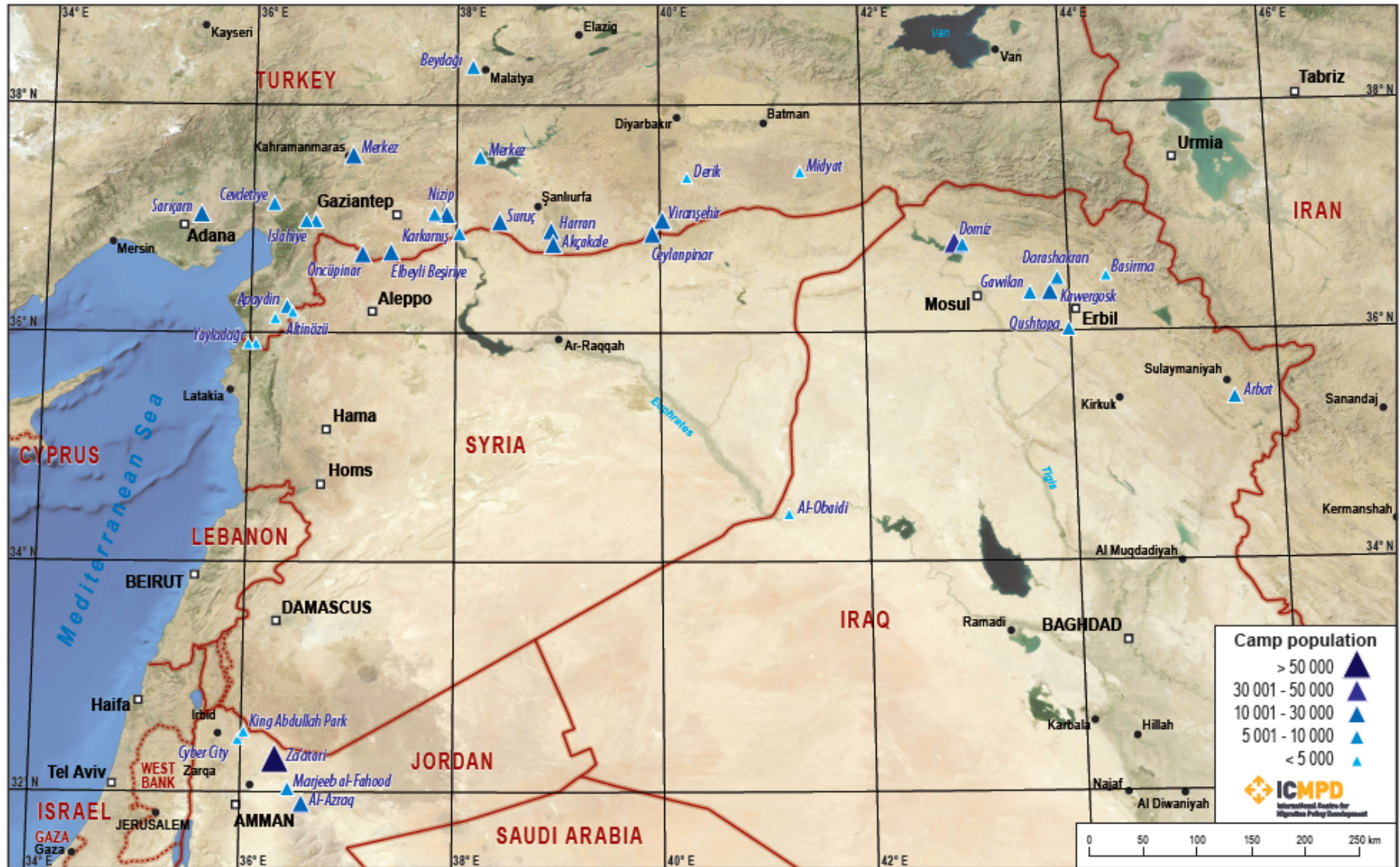
Source: Syrian Population of UNHCR Concern: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php> (latest updates: Egypt: 14 April 2015, Iraq: 31 March 2015, Jordan: 08 April 2015, Lebanon: 10 April 2015, Turkey: 10 April 2015).

Persons of Concern to UNHCR include refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, as well as returnees. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): <http://www.internal-displacement.org/middle-east-and-north-africa/syria/> (latest update: December 2014).

Syrian Refugee and IDB Crisis: March 1, 2015



Camps for Syrian Refugees: April 2015

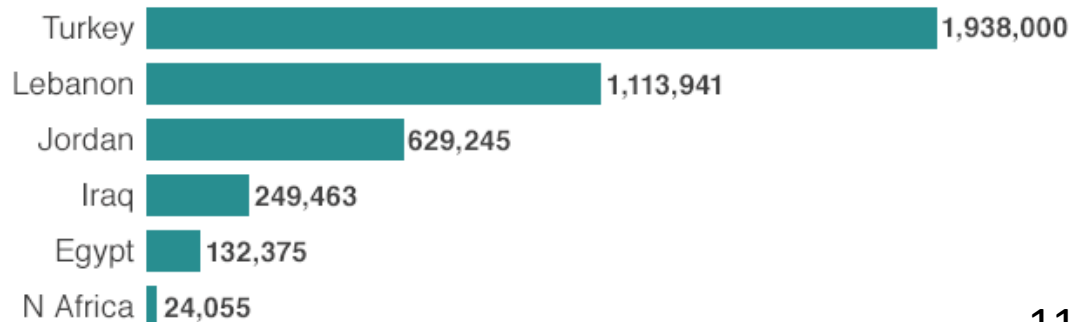


Source: Refugee camps in Iraq and Jordan: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php> (latest updates: Iraq: 31 March 2015, Jordan: 08 April 2015). King Abdullah Park Refugee Camp and Cyber City Refugee Camp in Jordan (temporary refugee camps): Camp population is based on estimates of aid workers in April 2015. Refugee camps in Turkey: <https://www.afad.gov.tr/TR/icerikDetay1.aspx?ID=16&icerikID=848> (latest update: 13 April 2015). This map only depicts official camps for Syrian refugees and does not make reference to informal tent camps set up by refugees without shelter.

Registered Syrian Refugees as of August 31, 2015



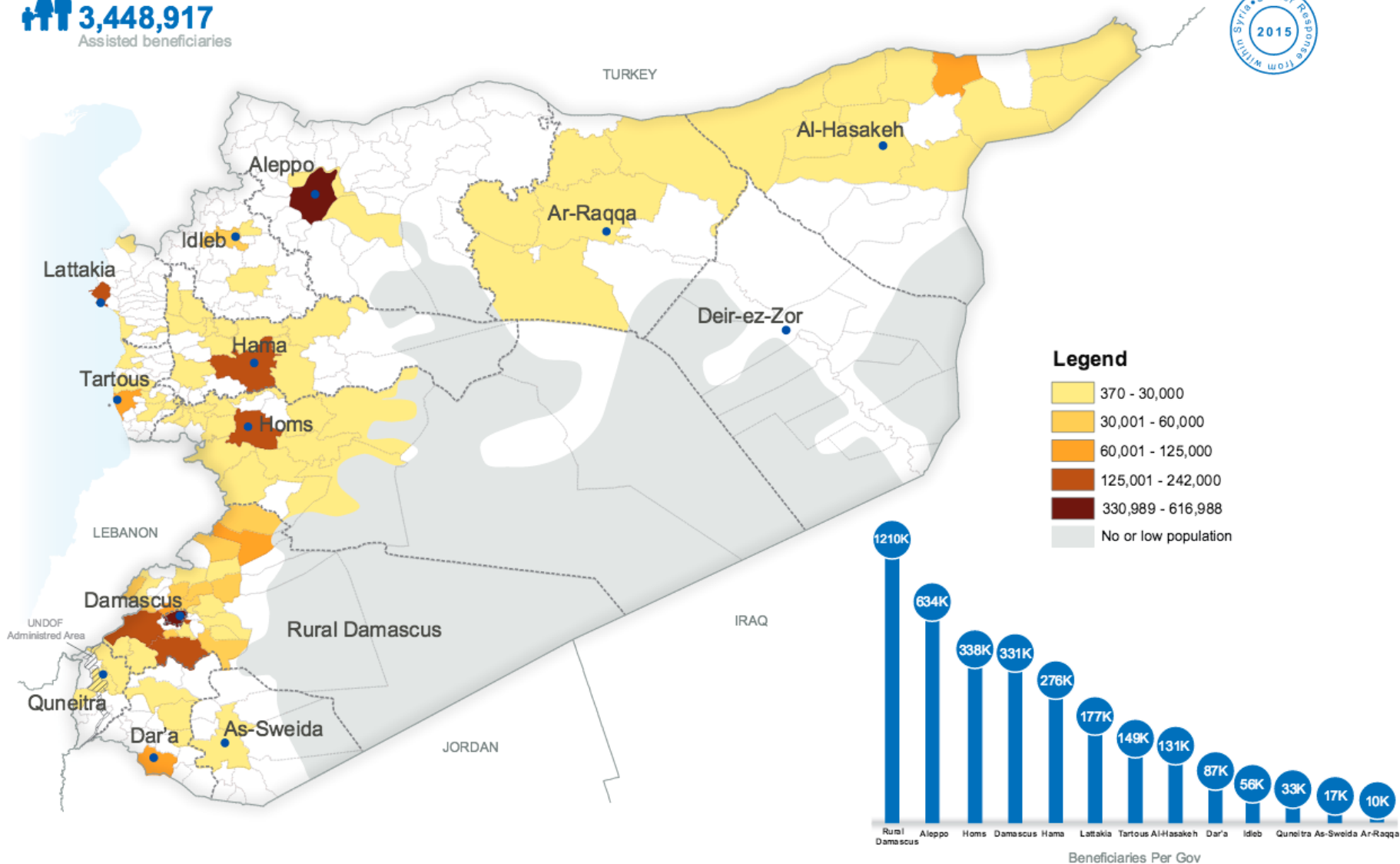
Registered refugees: **4,088,078**



Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-27838034>



3,448,917
Assisted beneficiaries



-Humanitarian reach to a sub-district does not necessarily imply full geographical coverage. The boundaries and names shown and the designation used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 23 December 2015 | Source: NFI & Shelter Sector from within Syria | Website: syria.unocha.org | www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/syria

US Aid to Syria FY2015 and FY2016 as of 12/31/2015

UN Appeals and Funding Received for the Syria and Iraq Crises, as of 12/31/2015

UN Reponse Plan	Requested	Received
2015 Syria Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan	\$4.3 billion	\$2.7 billion (63% of request)
2015 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan	\$2.8 billion	\$1.2 billion (43% of request)
2015 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan	\$70.4 million	\$5.18 million (74% of request)

Source: OCHA, Financial Tracking Services: "Total Funding to the Syrian Crisis," 12/31/2015, fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=special-syriancrisis&year=2015, accessed 1/11/2016, and "Iraq: Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 31 December 2015)," 12/31/2015, reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ocha_iraq_humanitarian_snapshot_december_2015.pdf; PRM, Response to DoS OIG request for information, 1/11/2016.

Status of Cumulative FY 2015 and FY 2016 U.S. Government Humanitarian Assistance Funds for the Syria Complex Crisis, as of 12/31/2015

(\$ Millions)

Office	Obligated	Disbursed
PRM	752.2	586.7
FFP	583.0	721.6
OFDA	304.7	21.7
Total	1,639.9	1,330.0

Note: Whereas PRM only reported disbursements of funds obligated from FY 2015 forward, USAID reported disbursements of funds obligated at any prior point. As a result, USAID reported disbursements may exceed obligations because disbursements may have been made against obligations from a prior fiscal year. Data on disbursements can provide valuable information about how much money has been spent on activities as well as the amounts of funding that remain available for expenditure. Provided a letter of credit from the U.S. government, however, humanitarian assistance implementing partners may accrue expenses before drawing down on agency funds. For this reason, expenditures on humanitarian assistance activities sometimes exceed disbursements.

Sources: USAID, response to Lead IG request for information, 1/21/2016; DoS, response to Lead IG request for information, 1/11/2016.

U.S. government financial commitments to the current Syria and Iraq complex crises have totaled approximately \$5.13 billion.

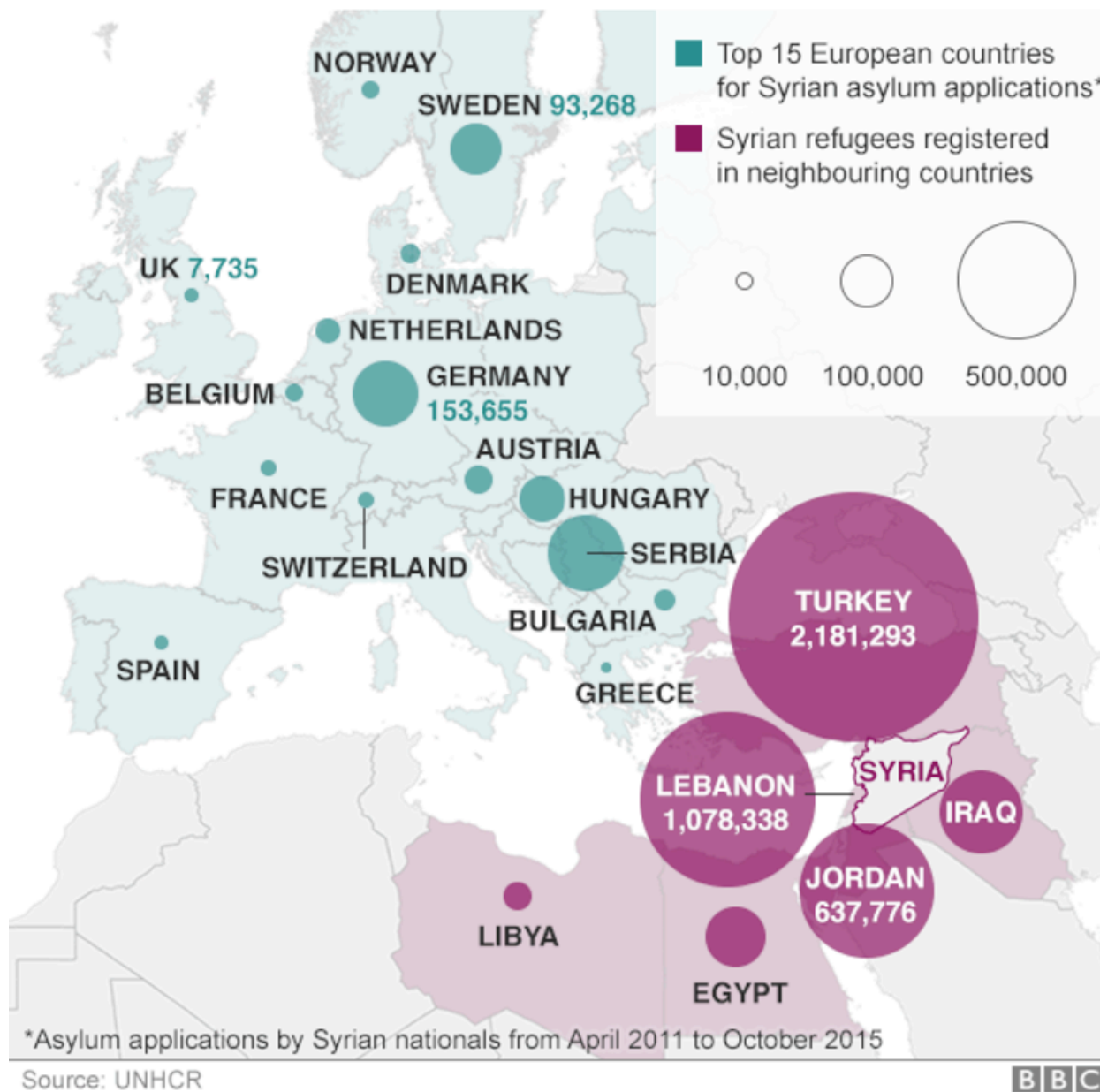
About 88% of these funds have been focused on responding to the Syria complex crisis, which predates the current humanitarian situation in Iraq by 2 years.

From October 1, 2014, to December 31, 2015, USAID and DoS obligated nearly \$1.64 billion in humanitarian assistance in response to the Syria complex crisis. Over that period, USAID and DoS disbursed \$1.33 billion to related programs and activities. During the first quarter of FY 2016, OFDA, FFP, and PRM disbursed a total of \$194.2 million.

Source: Lead IG for Operation Inherent Resolve, Quarterly report to Congress, January 2016, p. 91, http://www.dodig.mil/IGinformation/archives/IG_OCO_OIR_December2015_rev_TAGS.PDF.

Syrians in neighbouring countries and Europe

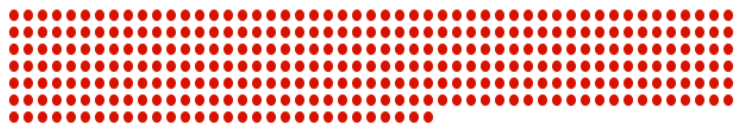
Syrians in Neighboring Countries and Europe: End- October 2015



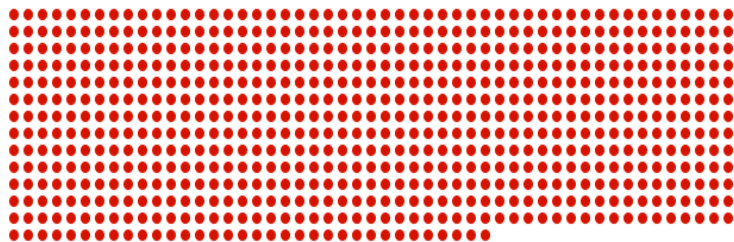
Cuts in Medical Services in Syria: 3.2016

Between the start of the war in March 2011 and November 2015, Physicians for Human Rights documented 336 attacks on at least 240 medical facilities across the country. These attacks resulted in the deaths of 697 medical personnel.

336 attacks on medical facilities



697 medical personnel killed



Source: Physicians for Human Rights

The number of available health professionals has dwindled to approximately 55% of the pre-war period. Access to healthcare facilities by both health workers and those in need of medical attention has continually been hampered by insecurity.

Just finding a medical facility has become difficult, with more than 40% of the population unable to access basic health services. Of 113 public hospitals, 58% of them either partially functioning or completely out of service.

More than **50%** of hospitals and health centres



are either partially functioning or completely out of service.

Source: UN

Syrian Observatory of Human Rights Casualty Estimate of 15.3.2016 - I

About 2 and a half million people have been killed or wounded since the beginning of the Syrian Revolution.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has documented death of 273,520 persons since 18/03/2011, which witnessed the fall of the first martyr in Daraa, until 15/03/2015. The casualties are as follows:

Civilians: 79,585 civilians, including:

13,964 children

8,823 female over the age of 18

44,288 Rebel, YPG and Islamist fighters

Defected soldiers and officers: 2574

Regime soldiers and officers: 55,435

Combatants from Popular Defense Committees, al-Ba'eth battalions, National Defense Forces, al Shabiha, pro-regime informers and the "Syrian resistance to liberate the Sanjak of Alexandretta": 38,208

Fighters from Hezbollah : 1,041

Pro- regime Shia militiamen from Arab and Asian nationalities, Al Quds Al Filastini Brigade and other pro-regime militiamen from different Arab nationalities: 3,897

Arab, European, Asian, American and Australian and many other nationalities of fighters fighting with ISIS, al-Nusra Front, Junoud al-Sham battalion, Jund Al-Aqsa battalion, Jund al-Sham organization, al-Khadra'a Battalion, the Islamic Turkistan Party, Junud al-Sham al-Shishan and the Islamic movements: 44,992

Unidentified dead people documented by photos and videos: 3,500

It is worth noting that the numbers do not include the fate of over 20,000 of missing detainees people inside regime prisons and thousands of others who disappeared during the raids and massacres by the regime forces and the militiamen loyal to them.

These statistics do not include also the more than 5,000 abductees from the civilians and fighters inside ISIS jails from Deir Ezzor tribes who were kidnapped from their areas.

Syrian Observatory of Human Rights Casualty Estimate of 15.3.2016 - II

It does not include the destiny of more than 6000 detainees from the regime forces and allied militiamen and about 2000 abductees kidnapped by “Islamic State”, Jabhat al- Nusra, the rebel and Islamist factions for “supporting regime”.

The numbers also do not include more than 2000 fighters from the YPG, IS, al-Nusra Front, Islamic battalions and rebel battalions who were kidnapped during clashes among the mentioned parties.

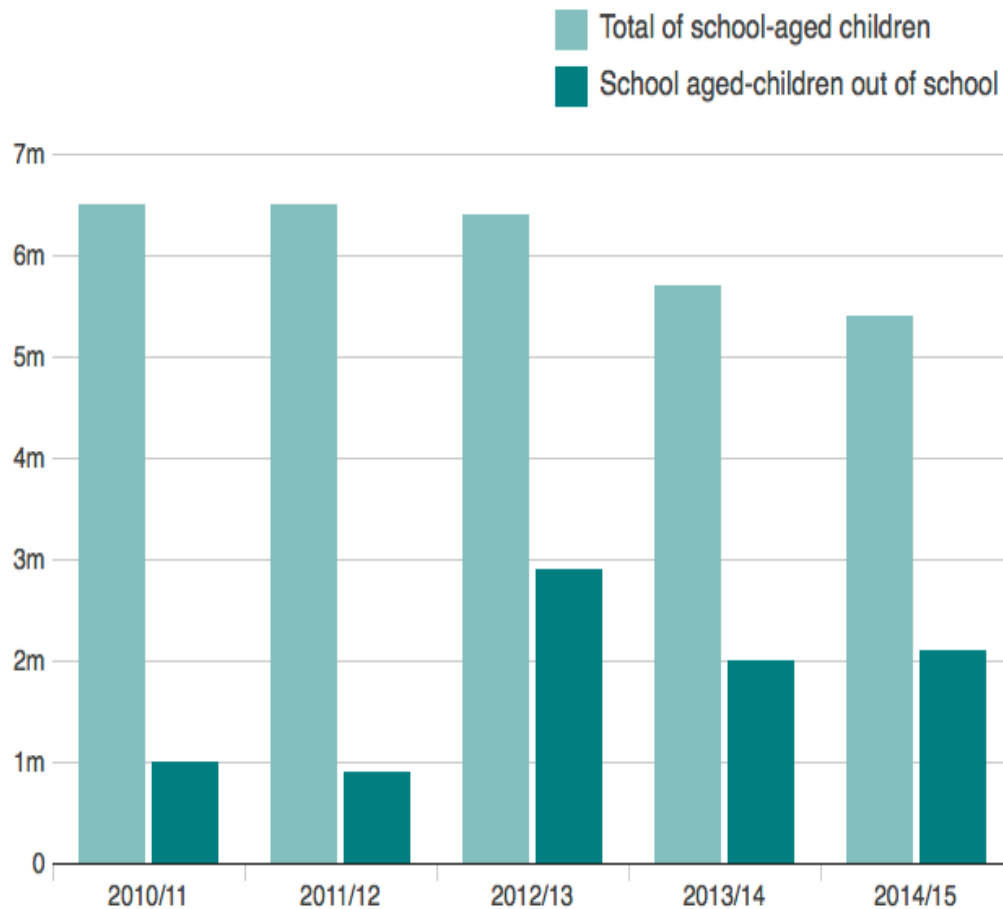
In addition, it does not include hundreds of non- Syrian Kurdish fighters who were killed in fighting with YPG in Syria.

We in the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights estimates the real number of non-Syrian casualties from the IS, al-Nusra Front, Islamic factions, Jund Al-Aqsa battalion, al- Ummah Brigade, the Islamic Turkistan Party, al- Battar Battalion, Jaysh al- Muhajereen and al- Ansar, Jund al-Sham, rebel battalions, regular forces and pro-regime militants to be approximately at 95000 more than the documented number due to the extreme discretion by all sides on the human losses caused by the conflict and due to the difficulty of communication in Syria.

On the other hand, there are about 2 million were wounded and suffered from permanent disabilities, while more than 11million have been displaced, as well as the infrastructure and properties have been destroyed.

SOHR is not going to stop to calls upon the members of the UN Security Council to issue a binding resolution that prohibits targeting the civilians in Syria, where massacres committed against them every day under the nose of the international community which do not make any step to stop the ongoing violations committed against the Syrian people who dream of establishing the state of democracy, justice, freedom and equality.

Children Out of School in Syria: 3.2016



Source: Unicef

Thousands of children have been killed since 2011, but even for those that have survived, the outlook remains bleak.

As families have fled Syria for safer shores, the number of school-age children in the country has dwindled — there are a million fewer now than there were in 2010. And of those that are still there, more than 40% are no longer going to school.

Syria's education system has been shattered by the war, with one in four schools having been damaged or destroyed, used as a shelter, or converted into a military building.

Even if the schools were intact, many would be unable to open, with almost one quarter of the country's teaching personnel — some 52,500 teachers — no longer in their posts.

Increased Food Prices in Syria:

Pre War to 2016

The price of food

Percentage change — pre-war to 2016



Location	Bread	Milk	Rice
Deir al-Zour	+6,500%	+20,000%	+2,800%
Eastern Ghouta	+3,900%	+20,000%	+1,500%
Regime-held areas	+230%	+500%	+200-250%



Location	Sugar	Flour	Eggs
Deir al-Zour	+4,600%	+1,650%	+3,600%
Eastern Ghouta	+3,400%	+1,500%	+2,400%
Regime-held areas	+160-370%	+150-525%	+350-400%

BBC, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-841ebc3a-1be9-493b-8800-2c04890e8fc9>.

*The regime-held areas cited are Homs and Western Aleppo

Source: BBC Arabic

Syrian Observatory of Human Rights Casualty Estimate of 28.2.2016 - I

More than 370000 people are thought to be killed since the rise of Syrian revolution

February 23, 2016 Comments Off on More than 370000 people are thought to be killed since the rise of Syrian revolution

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has documented death of 271138 persons since the rise of the Syrian revolution in Mars 18th 2015 the date of the first person killed in Daraa countryside, until February 22nd 2016. The casualties are as follows:

Civilians: 122997 civilians, including:

13597 children

8760 female over the age of 18

43891 Rebel and Islamic fighters

Defected soldiers and officers: 2561

Regime soldiers and officers: 55042

Combatants from Popular Defense Committees, al-Ba'eth battalions, National Defense Forces, al Shabiha, pro-regime informers and the "Syrian resistance to liberate the Sanjak of Alexandretta": 37966

Militiamen from Hezbollah guerrilla: 1025

Pro- regime Shia militiamen from Arab and Asian nationalities, Al Quds Al Filastini Brigade and other pro-regime militiamen from different Arab nationalities: 3809

Arab, European, Asian, American and Australian and many other nationalities of fighters fighting with ISIS, al-Nusra Front, Junoud al-Sham battalion, Jund Al-Aqsa battalion, Jund al-Sham organization, al-Khadra'a Battalion, the Islamic Turkistan Party, Junud al-Sham al-Shishan and the Islamic movements: 44254

Unidentified dead people documented by photos and videos: 3484

It is worth noting that the numbers do not include the fate of over 20000 of missing detainees people inside regime prisons and thousands of others who disappeared during the raids and massacres by the regime forces and the militiamen loyal to them.

These statistics do not include also the more than 5000 abductees from the civilians and fighters inside ISIS jails from Deir Ezzor tribes who were kidnapped from their areas.

Syrian Observatory of Human Rights Casualty Estimate of 28.2.2016 - II

This statistics also do not include the fate of more than 1500 fighters from the rebel and Islamic factions, the “Islamic State” organization, Jabhat Al-Nusra (al-Qaeda in Levant), YPG and local fighters loyal to these parties who were kidnapped during the clashes between these parties.

We also would like to refer that this statistics also do not include the fate of more than 6000 captured and missing person from the regime forces and the militiamen loyal to them, nor the fate of about 2000 kidnapped person by the rebel and Islamic factions, the “Islamic State” organization or Jabhat Al-Nusra (al-Qaeda in Levant) on charge of cooperating with the regime forces.

The statics also do not include hundreds of non-Syrian Kurdish fighters who were killed fighting with YPG in Syria.

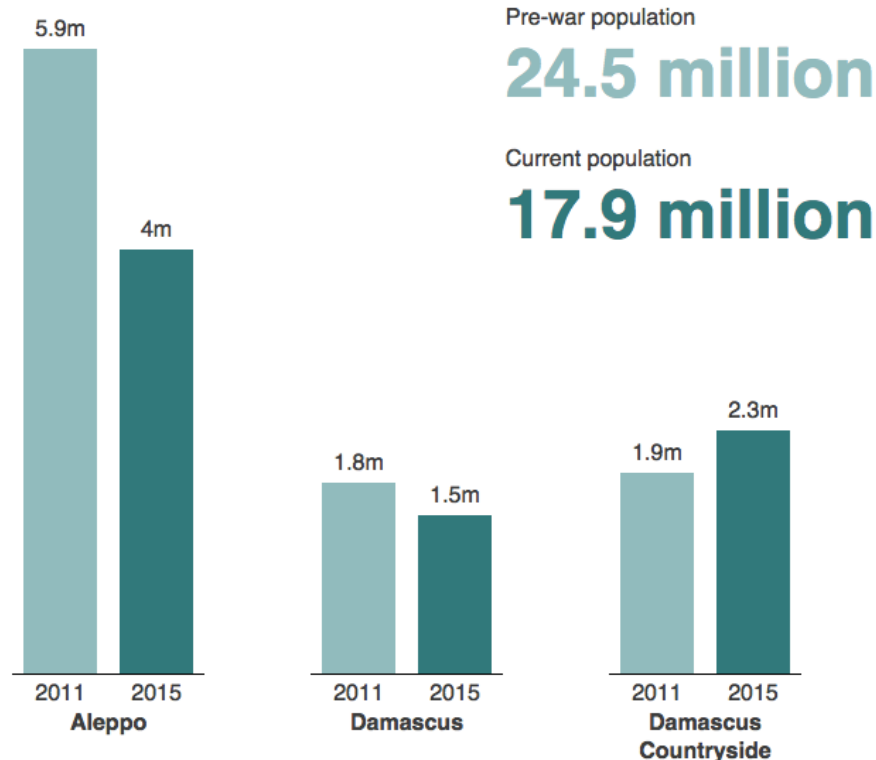
We in the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights estimates the real number of casualties from the rebel battalions, the Islamic battalions, Junud al-Sham, The Turkestan Islamic Party, the “Islamic state” organization, Jund al-Sham, Al-Nusra Front, Jund al-Aqsa organization, al-Umma Brigade, al-Battar battalion, al-Mohajereen and al-Ansar army, and the regime forces and militiamen loyal to them of Syrian, Arab and Asian nationalities to be approximately 95000 more than the documented numbers, due to the extreme discretion by all parties about the human losses caused by the conflict and due to the difficulty of communication in Syria.

Estimates of Human Cost of Syria War as of 3.21.2016

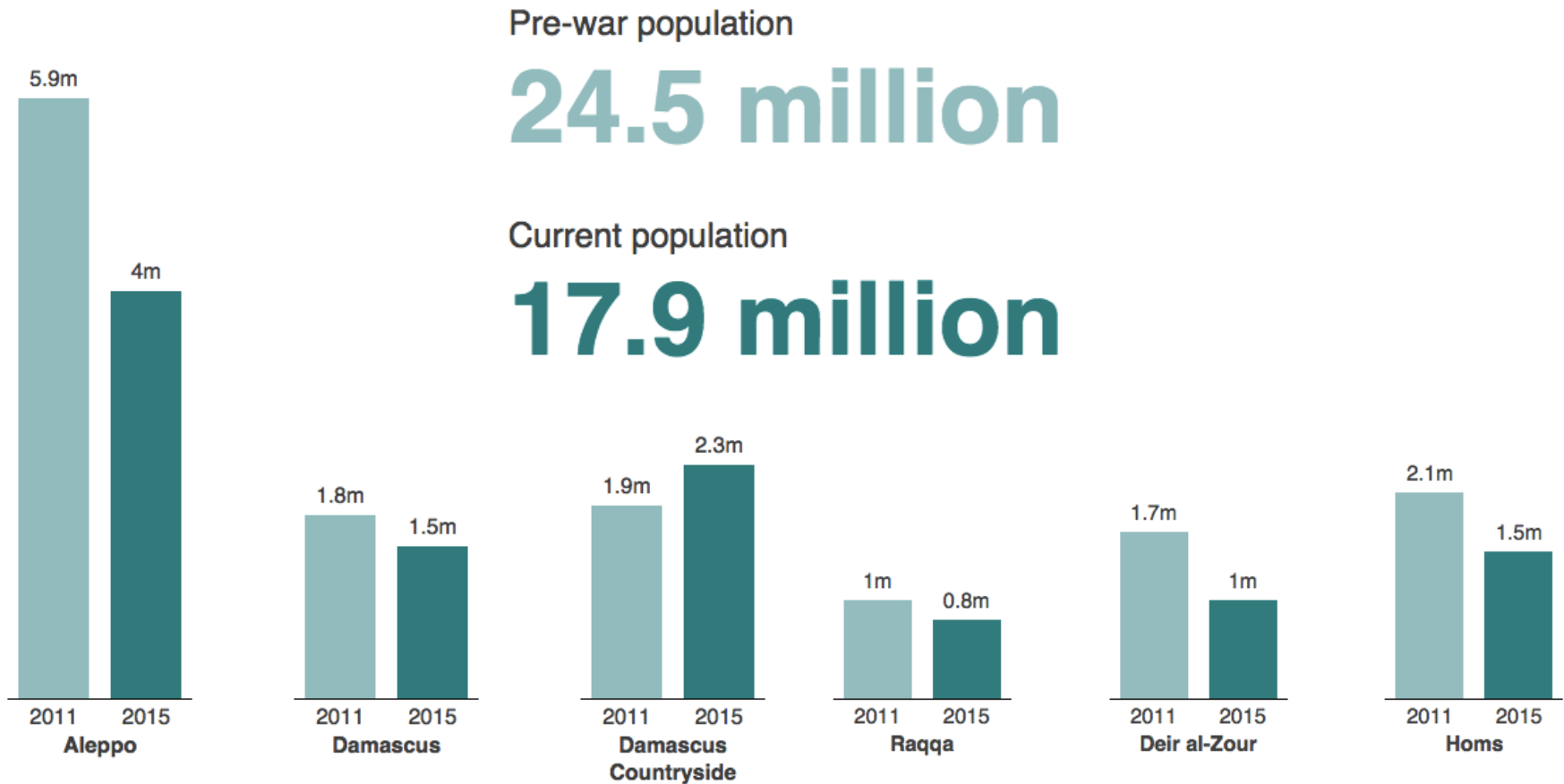
UNHCR Estimate of Human Costs: 3.2016

- 13.5 million People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria (1.2016)
- 7.6 million IDPs in Syria (6.2015)
- 5 million People Reached per Month by USG Assistance in Syria (USAID 12.2015)
- 4.8 Million Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries (3.2016)
- 2.7 million Syrian Refugees in Turkey (3.2016)
- 1.1 million Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (3.2016)
- 639,704 Syrian Refugees in Jordan (3.2016)
- 246,051 Syrian Refugees in Iraq
- 118,512 Syrian Refugees in Egypt

- From October 2014 to August 2015, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) — A United Kingdom-based human rights organization — documented more than 33,000 Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) air raids in Syria, including more than 18,000 barrel bomb attacks and more than 15,000 other aerial attacks, according to a mid-August report
- During the same period, SOHR documented nearly 5,500 civilian deaths, including more than 1,100 children, and injuries to at least 30,000 civilians
- Since the start of the Syrian civil war in March 2011, SOHR has documented the deaths of at least 270,000 people



Population Shift due to Syrian War as of 3.15.2016



Source: UNOCHA

UN OCHA Estimate of Human Cost of Syria War

In the absence of a political solution, human rights violations and abuses continue to occur in the context of widespread insecurity and in disregard of international law, international humanitarian law, and human rights law. Over 250,000 people have been killed and over one million injured. More than half of all Syrians have been forced to leave their homes, often multiple times, making Syria the largest displacement crisis globally. As of 31 July 2015, almost 1.2 million people have been internally displaced anticipating another million to be displaced by the end of the year in light of the growing humanitarian and protection needs of civilians.

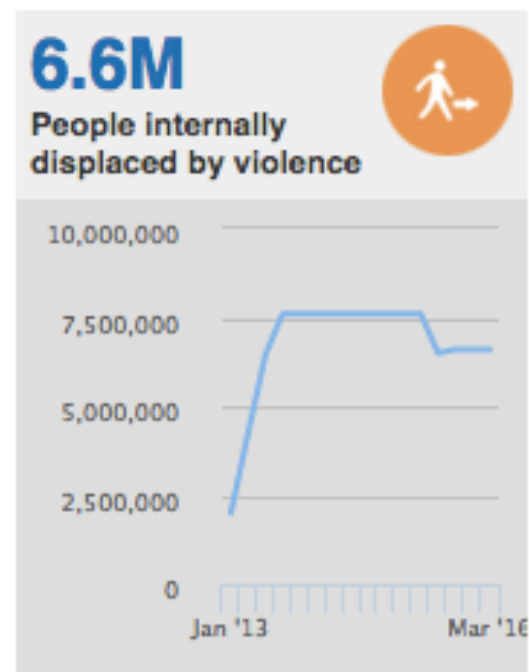
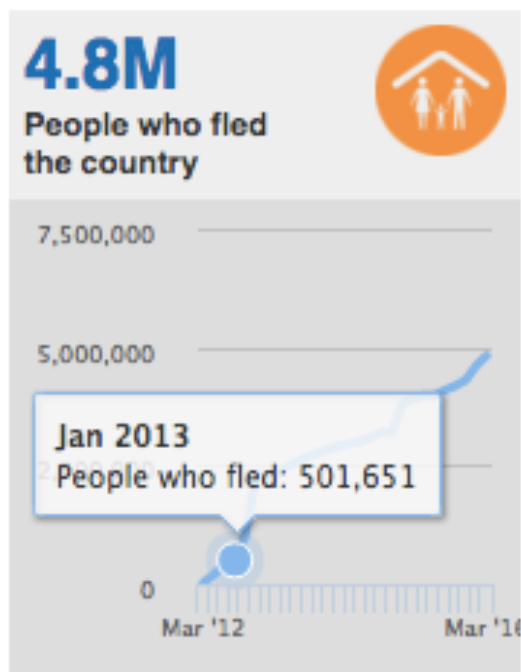
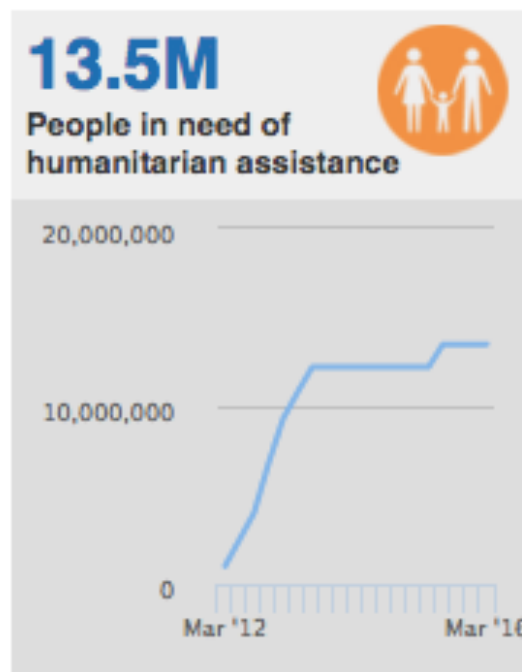
Inside Syria today, 12.2 million people remain in need of humanitarian assistance – a twelve fold increase since 2011 - including more than 5.6 million children. 7.6 million people have been displaced by this conflict. An estimated 4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in hard to reach and besieged locations. Palestine refugees are particularly affected, with 560,000 in need of assistance and 64 per cent of registered Palestine refugees displaced, 280,000 internally and a further 80,000 abroad.

In addition, Syria's development situation has regressed almost by four decades. Since the onset of the crisis in 2011, life expectancy is estimated to have shortened by almost 13 years (Q4, 2013) and school attendance dropped more than 50 per cent. Syria has also seen reversals in all 12 Millennium Development Goal indicators. The Syrian economy has contracted by an estimated 40 per cent since 2011, leading to the majority of Syrians losing their livelihoods. By the end of 2013, an estimated three in four Syrians were living in poverty, and 54 per cent were living in extreme poverty.

Humanitarian access to people in need in Syria remains constrained by shifting frontlines, administrative and bureaucratic hurdles, violence along access routes and general safety and security concerns, especially in areas under the control of terrorist groups listed in United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolution 2170 and 2178. It is increasingly difficult for Syrians to find safety, including by seeking asylum. These difficulties have resulted in a marked decline in the number of newly arriving registered refugees and in their ability to access international protection.



Status of Syrian Crisis: OCHA March 2016



Data source: OCHA (as of Mar 2016).

Rising Syrian Aid Costs: 2012-2016

Funding and targets of UN appeals for Syria



Source: UNOCHA FTS

BBC

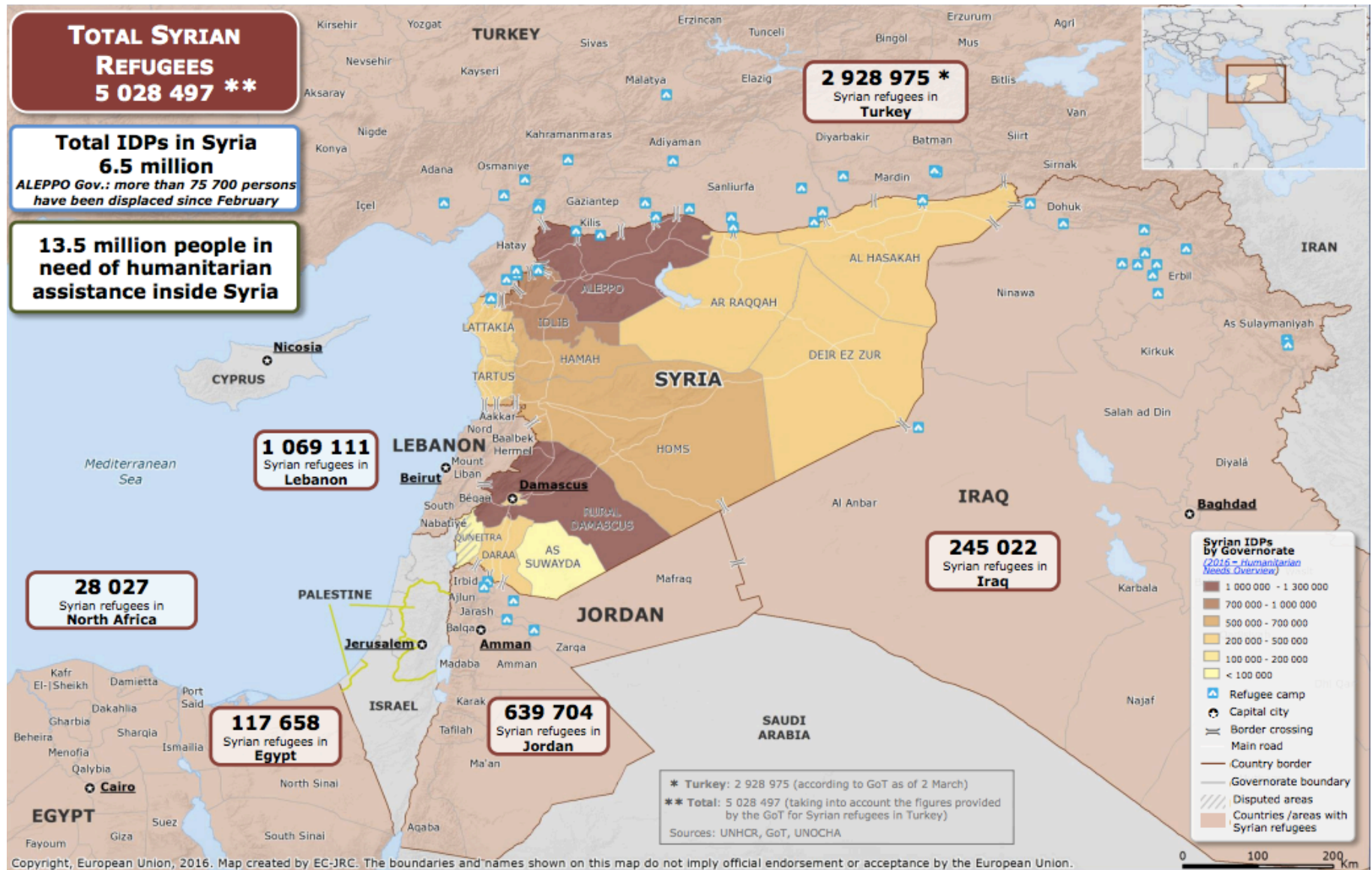
Sixty countries are represented at the [conference](#), including 30 world leaders. They are aiming to help the 4.6 million refugees and 13.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria

.The pledges included \$2.6bn from Germany, \$1.7bn from the UK, \$1bn from France and \$925m from the US. Australia, Belgium, Italy, Poland, Japan, the UAE, Austria, Switzerland, Estonia, Denmark and Finland also committed funds...the EU would commit €3bn this year and intended to "maintain this level of financing" for 2017 and beyond. He said the European Investment Bank would also "play its part", offering to lend as much as €23bn "for the whole of the Middle East and North Africa".

The \$9bn being sought on Thursday is made up of a [UN appeal for \\$7.7bn](#) and about \$1.3bn requested by regional host governments. Part of the reason for the record request is the underfunding of previous appeals. [Only 43%](#) of the \$2.9bn pledged to the UN's 2015 appeal has so far been funded. Delegates from Turkey - which hosts the largest number of refugees, 2.5 million - Jordan and Lebanon said their societies would need long-term support in order to adapt to the influx from Syria.

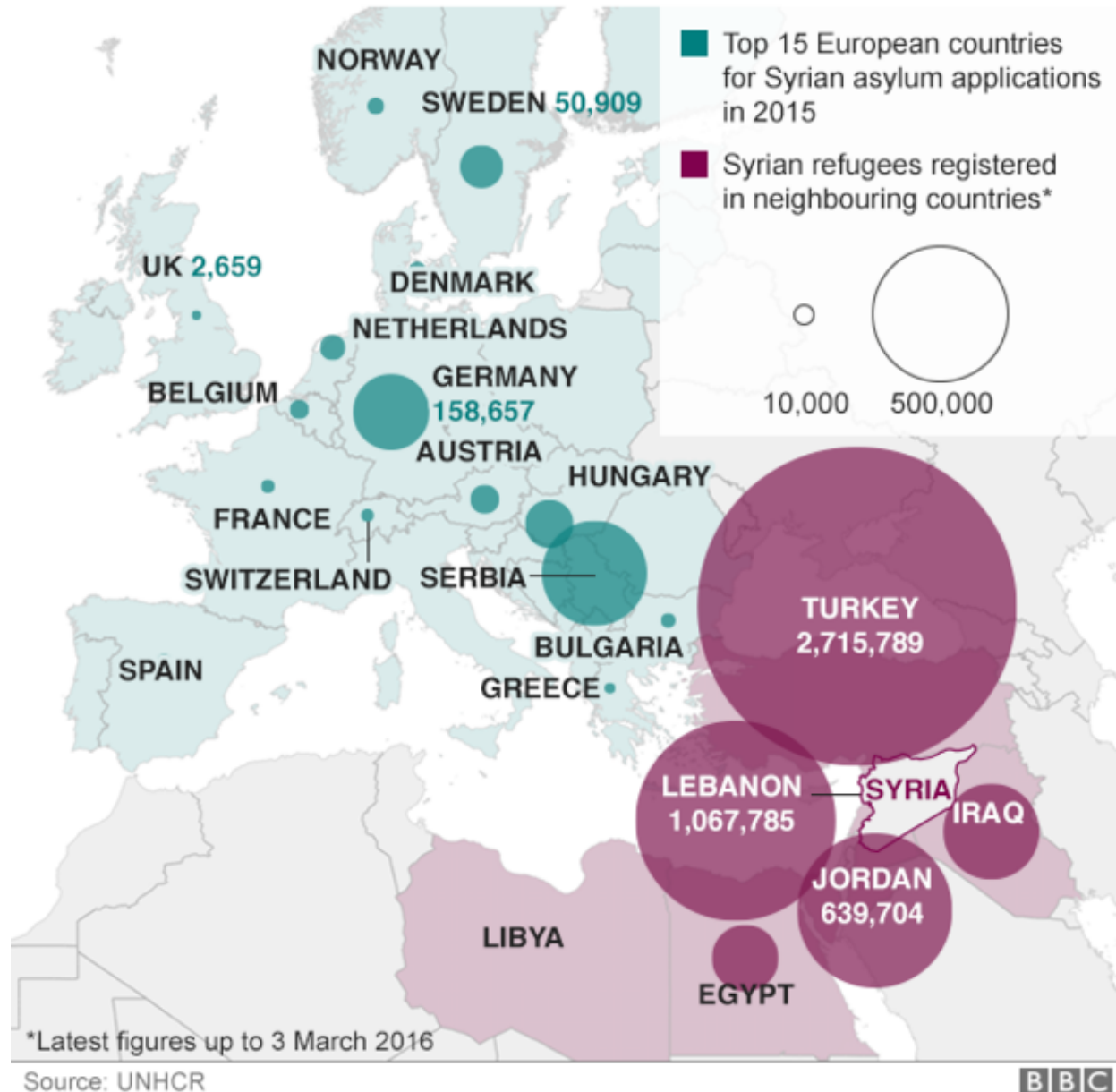
Source: BBC, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-35488674>.

Syrian Refugee and IDP Crisis: March 9, 2016



Syrians in neighbouring countries and Europe

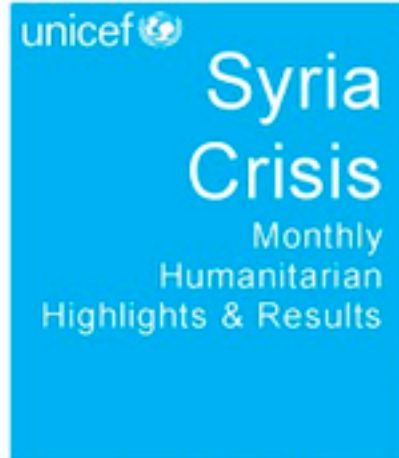
Syrians in Neighboring Countries and Europe: 03 March 2016



Syria: UNICEF January 2016



© UNICEF/MC/2015/Tornilax-Georgiev
Lamar, 4, has travelled with her mother for just over a month from Syria to the Gergelija border



SEPTEMBER 2015: SYRIA, JORDAN, LEBANON, IRAQ, TURKEY AND EGYPT

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- In response to persisting severe water shortages in Aleppo, UNICEF continued to truck 10,000 m³ of water per day, reaching 700,000 people, while continuing to develop alternative water supply modalities.
- In September, Jordanian schools nationwide reopened to welcome approximately 143,000 new and returning Syrian students, a 10% increase from last year. UNICEF's ongoing nationwide Learning for All campaign with 13 partners is encouraging families to enroll children in school where possible, and pursue other learning opportunities (including Makanis) where it is not.
- In Iraq, two new pre-fab schools in Gawelan and Domiz 2 have been completed in time for the start of the new academic year. Through its partner War Child, UNICEF conducted Back to School campaigns in both Domiz 1 and 2 with approximately 13,000 individuals attending.
- In Lebanon, UNICEF has equipped a new well in Majdel Anjar in Bekaa. Majdel Anjar is a large locality near the El Masma border crossing. The locality is home to over 15,000 Lebanese inhabitants and 17,000 Syrian refugees.
- Two UNICEF teams were deployed to assess the situation of women and children in transit in Izmir, Istanbul and Edirne – the majority of whom are Syrians. A mobile CFS was deployed to serve 100 children a day on the move in Izmir, and was deployed in partnership with the Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRCS) as part of UNICEF's commitment to providing rapid child protection services in the border areas.

In Syria

5,600,000

of children affected

12,184,000

of people affected
(HNO, 2014)

Outside Syria

2,073,905

of registered refugee children and
children awaiting registration

4,180,631

of registered refugees and persons
awaiting registration

(UNHCR, 9 October 2015)

Syria Appeal 2015*

US\$ 279 million

Regional Appeal 2015*

US\$ 624 million

Syria: USAID Estimate of Situation, February 2016 - I

Numbers At A Glance

13.5 million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Syria

6.5 million

IDPs in Syria

4 million

People Reached per Month by USG Assistance in Syria

4.6 million

Syrian Refugees in Neighboring Countries

2.5 million

Syrian Refugees in Turkey

1.1 million

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

635,324

Syrian Refugees in Jordan

245,022

Syrian Refugees in Iraq

Key Developments

On February 4, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry announced nearly \$601 million in new humanitarian funding for Syria and neighboring countries, bringing total USG humanitarian assistance to date to more than \$5.1 billion. Secretary Kerry announced the funding at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in London, where USAID Bureau for the Middle East Assistant Administrator Paige Alexander and USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/DCHA) Assistant Administrator Thomas Staal attended on behalf of USAID. The announcement includes nearly \$364 million from State/PRM and \$232 million from USAID/FFP to support humanitarian efforts in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey, and nearly \$5.3 million from USAID/OFDA for humanitarian assistance inside Syria.

In response to locally negotiated ceasefire agreements, three joint humanitarian convoys accessed Idlib Governorate's besieged towns of Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya and Rif Damascus Governorate's besieged towns of Al Zabadani and Madaya in January. The convoys delivered food and relief supplies to meet the basic needs of 40,000 people in Madaya and 20,000 people in Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya for approximately one month. In late January, the UN revised its list of besieged locations in Syria. Notably, the UN added Rif Damascus' towns of Madaya and Moadamiyya and Damascus' Yarmouk neighborhood to the list, increasing the total number of besieged locations to 19. During the final quarter of 2015, Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG) and Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) aerial attacks on civilian infrastructure further escalated, constraining already limited safe areas for conflict-affected civilians and threatening humanitarian access.

Population Displacement

Persistent armed conflict compounded by SARG and GoRF aerial attacks internally displaced nearly 471,600 people between April and December 2015. The majority of Syria's internally displaced persons (IDPs) currently reside in Aleppo and Rif Damascus governorates, with each hosting nearly 1.3 million IDPs as of mid-January, according to a USAID/OFDA partner. In the final quarter of 2015, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian CCCM activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—reported that insecurity prompted the displacement of 71,300 people from Aleppo; 81,780 people from Hamah Governorate; 9,400 people from Homs Governorate; 14,000 people from Idlib Governorate; and 12,700 people from Latakia Governorate, to IDP camps and collective centers. In northern Syria, areas of southwest Aleppo and northern Idlib experienced the greatest amount of population movement during this period.

SARG forces recaptured Sheikh Miskine town in Dar'a Governorate from armed opposition groups on January 25, after three months of active fighting, according to the UN. Since November, all civilians from Sheikh Miskine—an estimated 30,000 people—have fled to neighboring towns in Dar'a. The UN anticipates that SARG advances on nearby Dar'a towns of Abtaa and Nawa, which host a large number of IDPs from Sheikh Miskine, will prompt additional population displacement. UN and USAID partners are assessing contingency stock levels of relief supplies in western Dar'a in anticipation of increased needs and conflict-related access restrictions.

Syria: USAID Estimate of Situation, February 2016 - II

Humanitarian Access

On December 22, 2015, the UN Security Council (UNSC) unanimously passed resolution 2258, urging all parties to the conflict in Syria, particularly SARG authorities, to immediately open routes across borders and internal lines of control to permit humanitarian assistance to reach Syria's 13.5 million people in need. The resolution renewed the authorities granted under UNSC Resolution (UNSCR) 2191 until January 10, 2017, but cited a significant decline in SARG-approved deliveries since October 31, 2015. UNSCR 2258 specifically called for the SARG's expeditious cooperation with the UN on future cross-line delivery requests.

The UN initiated a review of official besieged and hard-to-reach locations in Syria on January 21. The UN estimates that 4.6 million people were living in official hard-to-reach areas as of January 28, locations which are subject to various restrictions on the movement of people and goods that severely limit access to basic services and humanitarian assistance. Of this population, an estimated 486,700 people are living in areas besieged by the SARG, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and armed opposition groups, in order of magnitude. The number of people living under siege as of January 28 represents a nearly 24 percent increase from the 393,700 people living under siege in October 2015. Approximately 56 percent of the population is besieged by the SARG, and 10 of the 19 besieged locations in Syria are in Rif Damascus' Eastern Ghouta region. Only three locations—Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya towns and the western part of Dayr az Zawr Governorate's Dayr az Zawr city—are besieged by opposition or ISIL forces. During its recent review, the UN added Madaya, Moadamiyya, and Yarmouk to the list of official besieged locations. In Moadamiyya, a blockade of humanitarian and commercial goods since late December has significantly decreased the availability of food and medicine. The UN defines a besieged location as an area surrounded by armed groups, with the sustained effect that humanitarian assistance cannot regularly enter, and civilians—including people with severe injuries and medical conditions—cannot regularly exit the area.

On December 2, opposition forces and the SARG reached a locally negotiated ceasefire agreement in the opposition controlled Al Wa'er suburb of the city of Homs, Homs Governorate, according to the UN. The agreement, which returns control of Al Wa'er to the SARG, stipulated that the SARG release an unknown number of prisoners and allow humanitarian assistance to enter the area, while requiring opposition fighters who refused to disarm to relocate to opposition-held areas of Hamah or Idlib. International media reports indicated that approximately 300 opposition fighters and 400 family members departed Al Wa'er and arrived in Idlib on December 10. Three joint humanitarian convoys—composed of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), and UN teams—accessed Al Wa'er between December 5 and January 11. In total, the three convoys have reached 90,000 individuals, including 75,000 people in Al Wa'er and 15,000 people in surrounding areas, with emergency food assistance and relief supplies, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Humanitarian teams also distributed materials to better insulate shelters against harsh winter conditions and to improve water and sanitation facilities at 13 sites hosting IDPs.

On December 28, a joint ICRC-SARC-UN team evacuated more than 120 opposition fighters and their families from the SARG-besieged town of Al Zabadani, Rif Damascus, and more than 330 civilians from the opposition-besieged towns of Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya, Idlib, in accordance with locally negotiated ceasefires. Under the supervision of ICRC, SARC, and the UN, the evacuees from Al Zabadani travelled via Lebanon and Turkey to opposition-controlled areas of Idlib, and evacuees from Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya travelled via Turkey and then Lebanon to reach SARG-controlled areas of Syria, the UN World Food Program (WFP) reports. The joint humanitarian team provided medical assistance to the wounded evacuees, with some of the most seriously injured remaining in Lebanon for additional medical services.

Syria: USAID Estimate of Situation, February 2016 - III

In addition to significant amounts of emergency food assistance, three joint humanitarian convoys delivered health, nutritional, and other critical relief supplies to Al Fu'ah, Kafrayya, Al Zabadani, and Madaya. The deliveries included a three-month supply of medicine and surgical supplies for 200 people in Madaya from ICRC and the UN World Health Organization (WHO). UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) deployed a nutrition expert with one convoy to assess nutritional needs in Madaya and provided specialized nutrition products, including the nutritional supplements Plumpy'Nut and Plumpy'Sup, as well as high-energy biscuits, medicines, micronutrients, and therapeutic foods for the treatment of acute malnutrition. UNICEF also delivered a similar range of nutrition supplies to Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya to meet the health and nutrition needs of nearly 6,000 children, according to the UN. In addition, UNHCR delivered winter kits, composed of plastic sheeting, thermal blankets, water cans, and winter clothing, for 8,000 families in Madaya and 4,000 families in Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya. WFP also distributed 20,000 liters of fuel in total to Al Fu'ah, Kafrayya, and Madaya to operate water pumping stations and for household cooking and heating.

Food Security

On January 11 and 14, humanitarian convoys accessed the besieged towns of Al Fu'ah, Kafrayya, and Madaya, where increasing reports of acute malnutrition and malnutrition-related deaths have emerged. Fifty trucks transported approximately 355 metric tons (MT) of humanitarian assistance to Madaya, including 250 MT of emergency food assistance provided by USAID/FFP partner WFP. The additional 21 trucks carried emergency relief items, including 4,000 WFP food parcels, to Al Fu'ah and Kafrayya, according to WFP. The food assistance delivered to Madaya and the besieged Idlib towns was sufficient to meet the food needs of approximately 40,000 people and 20,000 people, respectively, for up to one month. As part of a January 18 convoy, WFP delivered 200 household food parcels and 200 bags of wheat flour—weighing an estimated 20 MT—to the besieged town of Al Zabadani. The assistance was sufficient to meet the food needs of the estimated 1,000 civilians remaining in the town for one month.

WFP reached an average of 3.7 million people in Syria per month with emergency food assistance from October–December 2015; an estimated 25 percent of this population resides in UN-identified hard-to-reach areas. Cross-border deliveries from Jordan and Turkey accounted for approximately 20 percent of the UN agency's assistance during the same period, representing a six-fold increase in WFP cross-border deliveries since the beginning of 2015. In areas affected by bread shortages, WFP assistance included wheat flour to households in rural areas and bakeries in urban areas, where households are less likely to have access to baking facilities. Additionally, WFP reached 188,000 children younger than five years of age with supplementary feeding products to prevent malnutrition in eight governorates between October and December, including 101,000 children in high-conflict areas of Aleppo, Hamah, and Idlib governorates.

USAID/FFP has provided more than \$135 million in FY 2016 funding to support NGOs' continued provision of emergency food assistance to millions of conflict-affected people throughout Syria.

Nutrition

Information on the nutrition situation in hard-to-reach and besieged areas remains limited due to access challenges, according to UNICEF. Recent reports of acute malnutrition from the city of Dayr az Zawr, Madaya, and Moadamiyya highlight an urgent need for comprehensive nutrition assessments in hard-to-reach and besieged areas. UNICEF has requested that all parties to the conflict immediately grant sustained and unconditional access to hard-to-reach and besieged areas for independent nutrition assessments and establishment of capacity to trace and treat malnutrition cases upon identification, and where necessary, to evacuate the most critical cases for treatment and avert further deterioration and risk of malnutrition-related deaths. Out of a reported 400 cases of acute malnutrition in Madaya, the SARG has approved medical evacuation for only seven people. A local NGO reports that one of the seven evacuees died in a Damascus health facility on January 31.

Syria: USAID Estimate of Situation, February 2016 - IV

Rif Damascus' SARG-besieged Darayya and Moadamiyya towns host an estimated 50,000 people in urgent need of food assistance, nutritional supplies, and health care services, according to international media. Relief agencies and commercial suppliers have been unable to access Moadamiyya since December 2015, and Darayya since 2012. International media reports that seven people in Moadamiyya have died from malnutrition since December, including five children. As of January 26, the SARG had approved a request to access Moadamiyya, and UNICEF planned to provide malnutrition screening supplies—including mid-upper arm circumference measuring tapes—to a USAID/OFDA-supported health facility in the town. An estimated 480,000 people in Rif Damascus are in urgent need of nutritional assistance, according to the UN.

Health and Wash

The UN reports deteriorated humanitarian conditions in the city of Dayr az Zawr, particularly in the western SARG-controlled areas, where approximately 200,000 people, including an estimated 150,000 IDPs, reside. Since ISIL began its siege on the western areas of the city in early 2015, access to information about humanitarian conditions in Dayr az Zawr has been extremely limited. Among other constraints, the siege has resulted in shortages of medical supplies, restricted access to safe drinking water and other basic services, and limited civilian movement. The primary hospital in the area lacks medicine, personnel, and supplies, and is located outside the city, making it difficult and expensive for residents to access. In addition, poor water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conditions and a lack of medical capacity have led to an increase in leishmaniasis cases and waterborne disease incidence, including typhoid.

Throughout 2015, the SARC and ICRC provided multiple limited shipments of humanitarian assistance through airlifts to Dayr az Zawr but halted the deliveries due to insecurity; the last delivery occurred in August and included 2 MT of food. Following a mid-January ISIL offensive on the city of Dayr az Zawr, the UN estimates that already limited food and basic supplies will diminish further due to the offensive, increasing the risk of food insecurity for the 200,000 people remaining in western areas of the city. Ongoing armed conflict has newly displaced approximately 3,200 households, and the UN has received reports of hundreds of civilian deaths and abductions by ISIL fighters. The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) began trucking safe drinking water to besieged groups in western Dayr az Zawr on January 20.

In December 2015, health agencies, including USAID/OFDA partners UNICEF and WHO, reached more than 860,000 children with polio vaccines across Syria, including eastern areas of Al Hasakah, Aleppo, Ar Raqqah, Dayr az Zawr, Hamah, and Homs governorates. Vaccination teams reached Aleppo's city of Kobane for the first time since ISIL initially seized control of the area in 2014 and provided immunizations to an estimated 17,800 children, the UN reports. Of the more than 860,000 children reached in December, health teams vaccinated more than 208,300 children living in hard-to-reach areas. Overall in 2015, health agencies vaccinated nearly 3 million children younger than five years of age against polio through five national campaigns, UNICEF reports.

Winter Season Support

During November 2015, members of the Turkey-based Shelter/Non-Food Item (NFI) Cluster—including USAID/OFDA partners—provided seasonally appropriate relief commodities to more than 275,700 conflict-affected individuals. Cluster members also provided shelter support to more than 40,300 people across 31 sub-districts of northern Syria. The cluster plans to reach 1.8 million people in northern Syria with critical relief items, including charcoal, fuel, household heaters, tents, thermal blankets, and winter clothing, during the 2015/2016 winter season; an estimated 2.6 million displaced and vulnerable people across Syria are in need of assistance amid harsh weather conditions, according to the 2016 Humanitarian Needs Overview. Of the cluster's 1.8 million intended beneficiaries, USAID/OFDA partners plan to provide winterization assistance to nearly more than 686,000 people in northern Syria by the end of the 2015/2016 winter season. The majority of the beneficiaries reached by cluster members in November reside in Aleppo and Idlib governorates, where the greatest number of new IDPs—more than 111,400 people and 165,800 people, respectively—arrived in November, according to the UN and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Syria: USAID Estimate of Situation, February 2016 - V

From its cross-border hub in Amman, Jordan, USAID/OFDA partner IOM procured and delivered 1,000 shelter-sealing kits and 1,000 olive pit bricks for heating purposes to southern Syria in December 2015. From its cross-border hub in Gaziantep, Turkey, IOM distributed 2,050 tents, 350 shelter-sealing kits and other winter relief supplies, and 7,000 jackets and pairs of boots for children in northern Syria. IOM also reached 17,640 individuals in hard-to-reach areas of Aleppo and Homs governorates with 8,500 blankets, mattresses, rechargeable lights, and winterization kits from Damascus.

As of December 2015, State/PRM partner UNHCR had distributed seasonally appropriate relief items, including high-thermal blankets, plastic tarpaulins, stoves, and winter clothing, to more than 463,000 internally displaced Syrians in nine governorates in northern and southern Syria. UNHCR also provided seasonal relief items to nearly 598,000 Syrian refugees and cash assistance to another 875,000 Syrian refugees. Through its regional winter assistance plan, UNHCR plans to address the seasonal needs of 1 million IDPs and 1.6 million refugees.

Syria: USAID Estimate of Regional Aid, February 2016 - I

Regional

USAID/FFP has provided \$26 million for WFP's regional emergency operation (EMOP) in FY 2016, which supports the continued provision of food vouchers to Syrian refugees in the neighboring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey.

Egypt

Amid significant outflows of Syrian refugees leaving Egypt, UNHCR continued to provide cash assistance to an estimated 35,000 Syrians in Egypt to help refugee households meet basic needs. The number of Syrian refugees registered in Egypt declined from nearly 140,000 at the start of 2015 to 117,658 refugees as of December 31, 2015. The majority of Syrian refugees in 2015 departed for Turkey, and more than 180 Syrian refugees voluntarily returned to Syria, with the majority of refugees departing Egypt citing livelihood and education concerns as their primary reasons for leaving.

Iraq

Syrian refugees continue to enter the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) through the Fish Khabur border crossing, with nearly 5,000 new Syrians arriving in November. Due to changes in Kurdistan Regional Government admission procedures, the proportion of Syrians admitted as asylum seekers upon arrival has sharply decreased this year from 50 percent admitted in January 2015 to 3 percent admitted in November 2015. While 97 percent of the refugees entered as visitors or for medical reasons, many visitors later approached UNHCR to change their status to asylum seekers, according to the UN. With temperatures dropping near the freezing point in mountainous areas of IKR, State/PRM partner UNHCR began distributing winter relief items, including blankets, heating devices, and kerosene to Syrian refugee households across the IKR in November.

Jordan

The number of Syrian refugees stranded on the Jordanian side of the Syria–Jordan border, in an area known as the berm, had risen to 20,000 people as of February 2, according to UNHCR. An estimated 4,000–5,000 refugees arrive at the berm each month and await permission to enter Jordan. In recent months, Jordanian authorities have permitted entry to a limited number of refugees, leaving a growing number of Syrians stranded at the Rukban and Hadalat areas of the border, which are more than 90 miles from the nearest town. Jordanian authorities attribute slow admissions to security concerns, claiming that many refugees have arrived from ISIL-held territory. UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations have urged the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to expedite security screening so that vetted refugees can seek shelter in at Azraq refugee camp, which has the capacity to immediately accept 20,000 new arrivals. UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies are providing basic assistance to refugees stranded at the berm.

Lebanon

In 2015, State/PRM partner UNICEF improved access to health facilities for refugees and host communities in Lebanon with USG support, conducting nearly 1.6 million health consultations. UNICEF also provided essential health supplies for up to 50,000 people, ensured the safe delivery of 3,000 babies, and immunized nearly 240,300 children younger than five years of age. In addition, more than 1.6 million people received access to safe drinking water through 60 UNICEF water projects. UNICEF improved wastewater management for an estimated 450,000 people and constructed 4,200 emergency latrines in informal refugee settlements in Lebanon. More than 600,000 refugees and host community members received community-based child protection and gender-based violence services. During the 2015/2016 winter season, State/PRM partner UNHCR is providing seasonally appropriate humanitarian assistance to more than 900,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon. On November 30 and December 4, UNHCR uploaded the first installments of monthly cash assistance to automated teller machine cards that will benefit more than 500,000 refugees during the winter. In addition, UNHCR signed an agreement with WFP to support 5,000 vulnerable Lebanese families through the National Poverty Targeting Program; each family will receive \$30 per person for four months through WFP electronic vouchers. UNHCR has also worked with the program to identify 53,000 Lebanese families to receive thermal blankets. The distribution of shelter weatherproofing kits is ongoing, with more than 16,000 households having received shelter kits to date.

Syria: USAID Estimate of Regional Aid, February 2016 - II

Turkey

On January 29, the Government of Turkey (GoT) began providing asylum to refugees on the southern border of Turkey's Hatay Province, as SARG forces launched indirect attacks on towns and IDP camps along the Syria–Turkey border. By the evening of January 31, the GoT informed UNHCR that nearly 2,100 Syrian refugees had been admitted and registered in Turkey. New arrivals are primarily staying with host families in local villages.

On January 15, the GoT published regulations legalizing work permits for Syrians. According to Turkish media, up to 400,000 Syrian refugees would become eligible for temporary identification cards and work permits under the new regulations.

The GoT announced on December 30, 2015, that Syrians entering Turkey by air or sea would need to obtain a visa prior to arrival at a Turkish port of entry beginning on January 8, 2016. The new visa requirement is in response to a reported influx in the number of Syrians traveling to Turkey from third countries with fake documents, according to the GoT. The GoT clarified that Syrians seeking entry to Turkey via land crossing are not subject to the new regulations.

Aid to Syria in FY2015

	USD committed/contributed	USD pledged
Total:	5,347,337,789	382,866,854
Allocation of funds from Red Cross / Red Crescent	408,303	
Allocation of unearmarked funds by UN agencies	110,443,873	
Australia	41,299,765	
Austria	9,871,730	
Belgium	53,167,473	5,202,475
Brazil	5,000,000	
Bulgaria	113,122	
Canada	172,608,312	
Carry-over (donors not specified)	239,006,284	
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	77,419,314	
Chile	100,000	
Cyprus	21,930	
Czech Republic	5,874,409	
Denmark	70,839,735	
Estonia	783,626	
European Commission	488,119,485	
Finland	25,269,792	
France	32,637,856	
Germany	504,803,117	
Holy See	24,828	
Hungary	328,947	
Iceland	875,000	
India	1,000,000	
Indonesia	500,000	
Ireland	14,525,231	
Italy	23,661,340	
Japan	139,779,390	23,360,000
Jordan	200,000	
Korea, Republic of	10,550,000	
Kuwait	313,496,347	215,390,000
Latvia	111,366	
Lithuania	43,573	56,117
Luxembourg	7,532,560	

Malaysia	500,000	
Malta	133,873	
Monaco	588,183	
Netherlands	196,429,726	30,652,419
New Zealand	1,506,024	2,903,226
Norway	147,020,250	
Poland	2,811,767	
Portugal	184,372	
Private (individuals & organisations)	126,851,491	
Qatar	9,966,165	
Romania	498,803	
Russian Federation	6,740,087	
Saudi Arabia	83,720,529	
Slovakia	362,618	
Slovenia	133,788	
Spain	11,305,486	
Sweden	53,424,963	
Switzerland	94,406,802	312,000
Turkey	1,000,000	
United Arab Emirates	44,521,743	62,370,971
United Kingdom	626,974,880	
United States	1,565,168,476	42,619,646
Various (details not yet provided)	22,671,055	

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SYRIA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FY 2012 – FY 2015

USAID/OFDA¹ \$866,283,413

USAID/FFP² \$1,550,694,720

State/PRM³ \$2,112,085,086

\$4,529,063,219

TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG)
ASSISTANCE TO THE SYRIA
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE