

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Country/entity</b>           | Syria   |
| <b>Region</b>                   | Middle East and North Africa                          |
| <b>Agreement name</b>           | 'Hudna' (truce) of al-Zabadani, Kefriyya and al-Fu'aa |
| <b>Date</b>                     | 20 Sep 2015   |
| <b>Agreement status</b>         | Multiparty signed/agreed                              |
| <b>Interim arrangement</b>      | Yes   |
| <b>Agreement/conflict level</b> | Intrastate/local conflict                             |

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

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

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

Close

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

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Stage</b>           | Ceasefire/related  |
| <b>Conflict nature</b> | Government   |
| <b>Peace process</b>   | Intra-Syrian Process (state/non-state)   |
| <b>Parties</b>         | Syrian Armed Forces/Hezbollah and Syrian rebel factions fighting under the banner of Jaysh al-Fatah  |
| <b>Third parties</b>   | -  |
| <b>Description</b>     | Short truce 'hudna' agreement between the Syrian Armed Forces/Hezbollah and Syrian rebel factions fighting under the banner of Jaysh al-Fatah allowing for the civilian evacuation Kefriyya and al-Fu'aa near Idlib. In return rebel fighters would leave Al-Zabadani and surrender medium and heavy arms to the regime. The regime would also release 500 rebel fighters. |

---

**Agreement document** [SY\\_150920\\_Hudna al-Zabadani, Kefriyya and al-Fu'aa\\_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

**Agreement document (original language)** [SY\\_150920\\_Hudna al-Zabadani, Kefriyya and al-Fu'aa\\_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

---

## Groups

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Children/youth</b>   | <p>Groups→Children/youth→Substantive</p> <p>Page 1,<br/> ... 6. Those desiring to evacuate among women and children under the age of 18 and men over the age of 50 from al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā cannot number more than 10,000 Syrian citizens.</p> <p>Page 1,<br/> ... 8. Pledge and commit to release 500 detainees from state prisons after the completion of the first phase. In the second phase, discussions [will] begin to break this number down to 325 women, 25 juveniles, and 150 men arrested before the 1 July 2015 [to undertaken] without adherence to specific names or areas.</p> <p>Page 2,<br/> ... 20. After withdrawal of the total number who will leave al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā (women, children, elderly and the wounded), and al-Zabadānī (wounded, weapons bearers and families), the batch of people from the two areas will determined in proportion to the specified numbers. Mūrak point will be the exchange point in both directions.</p> |
| <b>Disabled persons</b> | No specific mention.   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Elderly/age</b>                       | <p>Groups→Elderly/age→Substantive</p> <p>Page 1,<br/> ... 6. Those desiring to evacuate among women and children under the age of 18 and men over the age of 50 from al-Fu‘aa and Kifrayā cannot number more than 10,000 Syrian citizens.</p> <p>Page 2,<br/> ... 20. After withdrawal of the total number who will leave al-Fu‘aa and Kifrayā (women, children, elderly and the wounded), and al-Zabadānī (wounded, weapons bearers and families), the batch of people from the two areas will determined in proportion to the specified numbers. Mūrak point will be the exchange point in both directions.</p>  |
| <b>Migrant workers</b>                   | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Racial/ethnic/<br/>national group</b> | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Religious groups</b>                  | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Indigenous people</b>                 | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Other groups</b>                      | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Refugees/displaced<br/>persons</b>    | <p>Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive</p> <p>[Summary] Agreement allows for the evacuation of 10,000 Syrians from al-Zabadani and surrounding districts to Idlib, which includes women, children, fighters bearing light arms, the wounded and men over the age of 50.</p> <p>Page 1,<br/> ... 5. The Iranian and Lebanese governments endeavour to remove families in al-Zabadanī escaping on illegal routes to Lebanon and repatriate them directly to Syria or Turkey on the condition that there are no more than 40-50 families, and that it is done during the first phase.</p> <p>Page 2,<br/> ... 16. It is agreed that the point of reception and handling of those entering or leaving the area of Idlib is the town of Mūrak. For al-Zabadānī the point [of entry/exit] is reached through the liaison officers of both sides.</p> <p>Page 2,<br/> ... 20. After withdrawal of the total number who will leave al-Fu‘aa and Kifrayā (women, children, elderly and the wounded), and al-Zabadānī (wounded, weapons bearers and families), the batch of people from the two areas will determined in proportion to the specified numbers. Mūrak point will be the exchange point in both directions.</p> |
| <b>Social class</b>                      | No specific mention.   |

**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender**

Page 1,  
... 6. Those desiring to evacuate among women and children under the age of 18 and men over the age of 50 from al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā cannot number more than 10,000 Syrian citizens.

Page 1,  
... 8. Pledge and commit to release 500 detainees from state prisons after the completion of the first phase. In the second phase, discussions [will] begin to break this number down to 325 women, 25 juveniles, and 150 men arrested before the 1 July 2015 [to undertaken] without adherence to specific names or areas.

Page 2,  
... 20. After withdrawal of the total number who will leave al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā (women, children, elderly and the wounded), and al-Zabadānī (wounded, weapons bearers and families), the batch of people from the two areas will determined in proportion to the specified numbers. Mūrak point will be the exchange point in both directions.

**Men and boys**

Gender→Men and boys→Gender neutral wording

Page 1,  
... 6. Those desiring to evacuate among women and children under the age of 18 and men over the age of 50 from al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā cannot number more than 10,000 Syrian citizens.

Page 1,  
... 8. Pledge and commit to release 500 detainees from state prisons after the completion of the first phase. In the second phase, discussions [will] begin to break this number down to 325 women, 25 juveniles, and 150 men arrested before the 1 July 2015 [to undertaken] without adherence to specific names or areas.

**LGBTI**

No specific mention.

**Family**

Page 1,  
... 3. The departure of all fighters from the town of al-Zabadānī who want to leave with their families from the al-Zabadānī area.

Page 1,  
... 4. The only destination for all wanting to leave al-Zabadānī (gunmen, the wounded, families) is Idlib.

Page 1,  
... 5. The Iranian and Lebanese governments endeavour to remove families in al-Zabadānī escaping on illegal routes to Lebanon and repatriate them directly to Syria or Turkey on the condition that there are no more than 40-50 families, and that it is done during the first phase.

Page 2,  
... 19. The families of militants in al-Zabadānī who wish to leave, these are included in all families that wish to leave that are located in al-Zabadānī, Madhayya, Baqīn and Sirghayya.

## **State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** No specific mention.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

**Self determination** No specific mention.

**Referendum** No specific mention.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/unification** No specific mention.

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border provision** No specific mention.

---

## **Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

**Electoral commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** Page 2,  
... 18. This agreement does not include the departure of militants in Madhayya, but it permits the evacuation of the precariously wounded that cannot be treated in Madhayya and this is determined by the Red Crescent under the auspices of the United Nations.

**Traditional/religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

---

#### **Power sharing**

**Political power sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** No specific mention.

---

#### **Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty incorporation** No specific mention.

**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

---

#### **Rights related issues**

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** No specific mention.

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

**Media and communication** No specific mention.

**Mobility/access** Page 1,  
... 11. The truce, in addition to the ceasefire, also includes an end to the hostility [aimed at] closing the humanitarian corridor to al-Fu ' aa and Kifrayā, or the closure of passages to Madhayya, Baqīn and Sirghayya.

**Protection measures** No specific mention.

**Other** No specific mention.

---

## **Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions** No specific mention.

---

## **Justice sector reform**

**Criminal justice and emergency law** No specific mention.

**State of emergency provisions** No specific mention.

**Judiciary and courts** No specific mention.

**Prisons and detention** No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws** No specific mention.

---

## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** No specific mention.

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

---

**Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/  
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian  
rights or access** No specific mention.

---

## Security sector

### Security Guarantees

Page 2,  
... 15. All parties will ensure security and smooth progress of work within the areas of their control.

### Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
[Summary] Agreement is a ceasefire agreement

Page 1,  
1. This agreement, including the first stage, will be effective immediately after the agreement is signed and the second phase precedes immediately following the first stage.

Page 1,  
2. The areas that are covered by the ceasefire in the beginning, and later by the hudnah [are]:  
a. South: al-Zabadānī, Madhayya, Baqīn, Sirghayya, and the surrounding military zone.  
b. North: al-Fu‘aa, Kifrayā, Banīsh, Taftanāz, Ta‘um, Ma‘rat Masrayn, Idlib City, Ram Hamdan, Zirdana Shalakh.

Page 1,  
... 9. At the zero hour [this] ceasefire will be entered into force, and [will] begin with the undertaking of the first phase.

Page 1,  
... 10. [This] ceasefire agreement includes the following stipulations, necessary for both sides:  
a. The cessation of all military operations and a ceasefire inside the areas of the truce, [as well as] outside of them.  
b. The cessation of war planes and helicopters, including the dropping of aid from helicopters.  
c. The cessation of any improvements to bunkers and housing on the frontline.  
d. The cessation of any advancement in buffer zones between the contact lines.

Page 1,  
... 11. The truce, in addition to the ceasefire, also includes an end to the hostility [aimed at] closing the humanitarian corridor to al-Fu‘aa and Kifrayā, or the closure of passages to Madhayya, Baqīn and Sirghayya.

Page 2,  
... 13. The destruction of heavy weapons in al-Zabadānī.

Page 2,  
... 17. Within 48 hours of the time the above points are approved, logistical preparations for the implementation of the agreement will begin.

### Police

No specific mention.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Armed forces</b>                                 | [Summary] Ceasefire provisions provides clauses that include the National Syrian Army. See ceasefire.  |
| <b>DDR</b>  | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Intelligence services</b>                        | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces</b> | <p>[Summary] Ceasefire provisions provides clauses that include the Syrian opposition forces. See ceasefire.</p> <p>Page 1,<br/>... 3. The departure of all fighters from the town of al-Zabadānī who want to leave with their families from the al-Zabadānī area.</p> <p>Page 1,<br/>... 4. The only destination for all wanting to leave al-Zabadānī (gunmen, the wounded, families) is Idlib.</p> <p>Page 1-2,<br/>... 12. The departure of militants from al-Zabadānī with an individual light weapon, backpacks and one shoulder bag (that does not contain weapons or ammunition). Individual light arms include one personal pistol and one of the following: rifles of all kinds, sniper rifles of all kinds, PK machine guns and rocket propelled grenade launchers.</p> <p>Page 2,<br/>... 18. This agreement does not include the departure of militants in Madhayya, but it permits the evacuation of the precariously wounded that cannot be treated in Madhayya and this is determined by the Red Crescent under the auspices of the United Nations.</p> |
| <b>Withdrawal of foreign forces</b>                 | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Corruption</b>                                   | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Crime/organised crime</b>                        | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Drugs</b>  | No specific mention.   |
| <b>Terrorism</b>                                    | No specific mention.   |

---

## **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** Page 1,  
... 8. Pledge and commit to release 500 detainees from state prisons after the completion of the first phase. In the second phase, discussions [will] begin to break this number down to 325 women, 25 juveniles, and 150 men arrested before the 1 July 2015 [to undertaken] without adherence to specific names or areas.

Page 2,  
... 23. At the end of the first phase, the second phase will begin which includes the release of 500 detainees and prisoners and demonstrating the truce for [a period] of six months in the areas mentioned in Article 2. The details of the truce and the adjustment of its mechanism will be discussed during a face-to-face meeting.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

---

## **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar**

Page 2,  
... 14. The agreement will be implemented under the auspices, supervision and in the presence of the United Nations.

**Enforcement mechanism**

Page 2,  
... 22. A working group will be formed including delegates from the United Nations, Iran and from the militant [organisations] to be considered an authority to follow up on the implementation of the agreement and resolve any problems that may arise. The UN and Iranian delegates will reside in Damascus and will communicate with the militant [organisation's] delegates.

Page 2,  
... 23. At the end of the first phase, the second phase will begin which includes the release of 500 detainees and prisoners and demonstrating the truce for [a period] of six months in the areas mentioned in Article 2. The details of the truce and the adjustment of its mechanism will be discussed during a face-to-face meeting.

---