

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Minutes of Agreement (between Ahrar al-Sham (AAS) and Jaysh al-Fatah, Idlib)
Date	21 Jul 2016
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict

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

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

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

Close

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

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	<p>Side one: Harakat Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya, represented by Brother Doctor Hussein and Abu Ahmed Tarmanin, member of the Shura of Jaysh al-Fatah [Signed]</p> <p>Side two: Jund al-Aqsa, represented by Brother Khalid Khatib and Abu Hashim Miri, member of the Shura Council of al-Fatah [Signed]</p>
Third parties	Judicial Committee of Jaysh al-Fatah : Sheikh Abdu al-Rizaq al-Mahdi, Abu Jabir al-Hamawi, Abu al-Harith al-Misri, Abu Islam al-Hamawi (and) al-Mu'tasim b-Allah al-Jazrawi.
Description	Ruling issued by the Presidency of the Shura Council of Idlib on behalf of the Idlib Judicial Committee of Jaysh al-Fatah providing for 9 items: (1) that the dispute be solved by the Judicial Committee; (2) that barricades be pulled back; (3, 4 & 5) that the prisoners and dead are exchanged; (6 & 7) assigning representatives from both parties; and that (8) the media hostilities end and to solve the 'judicial file' as soon as possible.

Agreement document [SY_160721_Minutes of Agreement_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_160721_Minutes of Agreement_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

Racial/ethnic/national group No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons No specific mention.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
Page 1, 8. Both sides will cease their media escalation.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts	[Summary] Agreement is the product of arbitration by the Judicial Committee of Jaysh al-Fatah.
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Page 1, 1. The problem will be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
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Traditional Laws	No specific mention.
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Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	No specific mention.
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National economic plan	No specific mention.
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Natural resources	No specific mention.
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International funds	No specific mention.
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Business	No specific mention.
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Taxation	No specific mention.
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Banks	No specific mention.
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Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights	No specific mention.
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Pastoralist/nomadism rights	No specific mention.
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Cultural heritage	No specific mention.
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Environment	No specific mention.
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Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.
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Security sector

Security Guarantees	Page 1, 2. The two sides will pull back their barricades.
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Ceasefire	No specific mention.
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Police	No specific mention.
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Armed forces	No specific mention.
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DDR	No specific mention.
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Intelligence services	No specific mention.
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Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
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Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
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Corruption	No specific mention.
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Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
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Drugs	No specific mention.
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Terrorism	No specific mention.
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Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
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Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
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Courts	No specific mention.
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Mechanism	No specific mention.
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Prisoner release	Page 1, 5. Both sides will immediately release their detainees.
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Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	<p>Page 1, 3. The deceased Jund al-Aqsa soldiers will immediately be handed over to the Executive Force of Jaysh al-Fatah.</p> <p>Page 1, 4. The deceased of Harakat Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya will be handed over to their families after a medical examiner has seen them.</p>
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	<p>Syria Live Map: https://syria.liveuamap.com/en/2016/22-july-agreement-between-ahrar-alshamjund-alaqsa-has-been</p> <p>al-Abasirah (2017), Al-Aqsa Soldiers Organization .. the full story, April 15, https://web.archive.org/save/https://alabasirah.com/node/573</p>
