

<b>Country/entity</b>	Syria
<b>Region</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>Agreement name</b>	Agreement in East Ghouta and Jubar between the Free Syrian Army (FSA) and Russia
<b>Date</b>	16 Aug 2017
<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>	Free Syrian Army in Jubar and East Ghouta, represented by Faylaq al-Rahman [Signed by President of the Political Bureau of the Free Syrian Army in Jubar and East Ghouta, [Illegible]]
<b>Third parties</b>	Representative of the Russian Guarantor, [Illegible]
<b>Description</b>	Agreement guaranteed by Russia between the Free Syrian Army/Faylaq al-Rahman Corps and the Syrian Regime providing for a ceasefire; prohibition of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, Islamic State or Jabhat al-Nusra fighters in FSA areas; access to humanitarian aid and goods through various checkpoints; that the area is ruled by a command council, that Russian forces will be a control force and that a committee will be created to release those imprisoned.

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**Agreement document** [SY\\_170816\\_East Ghouta and Jubar, FSA and Russia\\_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

**Agreement document (original language)** [SY\\_170816\\_East Ghouta and Jubar, FSA and Russia\\_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

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## 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.

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**Gender**

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** Page 1, 5-The first side in this agreement commits to prohibit members of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (earlier referred to as Jabhat al-Nusra) in the areas they control in the area of decreased escalation. It also stresses its stance on disapproving of and fighting the organisation Daesh [ISIL] and Nusra and their extremist ideology in any area they control. In the case of members of Jabhat al-Nusra preparing to depart to Idlib with or without their families side two of this agreement guarantees safe passage.

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## **State definition**

**Nature of state (general)** Page 1, The Free Syrian Army in Jubar and East Ghouta, represented by Faylaq al-Rahman - referred to as side one in this agreement - and the Russian Federation, as one of the guarantor countries for the operation of stability - referred to as side two for the purpose of this agreement - agree to respect the principle of sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic, the unity of its lands and its regional peace...

**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.

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## **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.

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### **Power sharing**

**Political power sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power sharing** Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Other  
Page 1, 2-The two sides commit to a ceasefire and to join the state of cessation of hostilities. They also welcome the creation of an area of decreased escalation, including Jubar and East Ghouta, where the borders of the area of decreased escalation are identified and lined out on a map reflecting reality and the land rights of the two conflicting fronts on the day of the agreement.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** Power sharing→Military power sharing→Joint command structures  
Page 2, 9-The area of decreased escalation is managed by a command council responsible for all civil activities. It is assigned with creating a national justice committee to peacefully solve all conflicts between the civilian population.

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### **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.

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### **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, 5-The first side in this agreement commits to prohibit members of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (earlier referred to as Jabhat al-Nusra) in the areas they control in the area of decreased escalation. It also stresses its stance on disapproving of and fighting the organisation Daesh [ISIL] and Nusra and their extremist ideology in any area they control. In the case of members of Jabhat al-Nusra preparing to depart to Idlib with or without their families side two of this agreement guarantees safe passage.

Page 1-2, 7-The two sides immediately take all necessary measures to improve the humanitarian situation in the area of decreased escalation. In order to realise this goal, side two guarantees and facilitates the immediate entry of relief and medical convoys as well as other humanitarian needs through the two check points controlled by side one in 'Ain Tarma and Harasta, which includes evacuation of patients to Syrian or Russian hospitals according to their will. The signing of this agreement also allows for the entry of all the necessary materials for the reconstruction process based on requests by side one. Representatives of the Russian Federation will undertake the inspection of convoys.

Page 2, 8-Side two commits to facilitate all civil, economic and business operations and activities and to allow the entry of a sufficient quantity of goods determined by side one to the area of decreased escalation without any additional or increased taxes or fees on the prices. For the purpose of this agreement, goods refer to food, medicine, medical equipment, fuel, raw materials, building materials, all electronic and mechanic devices and equipment, in addition to everything that is considered necessary for filling civil needs.

**Protection measures** No specific mention.

**Other** No specific mention.

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**Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

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

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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**Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 1, 2-The two sides commit to a ceasefire and to join the state of cessation of hostilities. They also welcome the creation of an area of decreased escalation, including Jubar and East Ghouta, where the borders of the area of decreased escalation are identified and lined out on a map reflecting reality and the land rights of the two conflicting fronts on the day of the agreement.

Page 1, 3-The two fronts of the conflict pledge to stop all hostile operations towards each other, starting from 08/08/2017 at 21.00 exactly, Damascus time. The two sides also guarantee that the two sides will immediately end the use of all types of weapons, including aerial, rocket, artillery and mortar shells attacks in addition to light weapons. The Free Syrian Army in Jubar and East Ghouta, represented by Faylaq al-Rahman and based on its principles, take all the necessary measures to prevent the targeting of all diplomatic missions on the grounds they control in Jubar and Ghouta, including the Russian Embassy in Damascus.

Page 1, 4-Starting from the beginning of the enforcement of the ceasefire, separation lines will be drawn between the two conflicting fronts on a map reflecting reality and the land rights of the two conflicting fronts at the time of the signature of the agreement.

Page 1, 6-The two sides commit to fully implement this agreement and to completely end all the military operations in the area of decreased escalation in Jubar and East Ghouta, including all aerial, rocket and artillery attacks. Any transgression or violation of the provisions of this agreement is punishable, according to the attached mechanism for ceasefire signed in Ankara on 29/12/2016.

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** No specific mention.

**Intelligence services** No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces** Page 1, 5-The first side in this agreement commits to prohibit members of Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (earlier referred to as Jabhat al-Nusra) in the areas they control in the area of decreased escalation. It also stresses its stance on disapproving of and fighting the organisation Daesh [ISIL] and Nusra and their extremist ideology in any area they control. In the case of members of Jabhat al-Nusra preparing to depart to Idlib with or without their families side two of this agreement guarantees safe passage.

**Withdrawal of foreign forces** No specific mention.

**Corruption** No specific mention.

**Crime/organised crime** No specific mention.

**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** No specific mention.

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## **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** Page 2, 12-When this agreement comes into force, a committee which represents the two sides as well as the Russian Federation as guarantor will be established in order to facilitate the immediate release of all detainees, abductees and forcefully displaced people from both sides. [This will happen] within a period of one month.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** Page 1-2, 7-The two sides immediately take all necessary measures to improve the humanitarian situation in the area of decreased escalation. In order to realise this goal, side two guarantees and facilitates the immediate entry of relief and medical convoys as well as other humanitarian needs through the two check points controlled by side one in 'Ain Tarma and Harasta, which includes evacuation of patients to Syrian or Russian hospitals according to their will. The signing of this agreement also allows for the entry of all the necessary materials for the reconstruction process based on requests by side one. Representatives of the Russian Federation will undertake the inspection of convoys.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

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**Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** [Russia]

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/ similar** Page 2, 11-Side one recognises the acceptance of the Russian Federation as a guarantor to implement this agreement. It also accepts that this side establishes control forces for the cessation of hostilities. These forces are based on the length of the front line between the two conflicting fronts, according to the attached map, as well as on other sites outside the area of decreased escalation.

**Enforcement mechanism** Page 2, 9-The area of decreased escalation is managed by a command council responsible for all civil activities. It is assigned with creating a national justice committee to peacefully solve all conflicts between the civilian population.

Page 2, 10-If agreed by the two sides and if there is an additional need, any items, archives, attachments or protocols may be approved in order to enforce the realisation of the rulings of this agreement and to clarify them.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** Al-Rahman Corps; <http://alrahmancorps.com/2525-2/>

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