

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Babulin Checkpoint Agreement between Hayat Tahir al-Sham (HTS) and the Ahrar al-Sham (AAS), Idlib Countryside
Date	27 Nov 2018
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	Hayat Tahrir Al Sham Represented by: Abu Yasser Al Raubish [Signed] Syrian Liberation Front Represented by: Waleed Salman [Signed]
Third parties	Guarantor: Al Sham Legion Represented by: Abu Shadi Habash [Signed]
Description	Four-point Agreement seeking to solve the issue of the Babulin Checkpoint by providing for (1) affirmation of checkpoint control by Ahrar al-Sham; (2) that violations were committed by Ahrar al-Sham; (3) that the committee decided that checkpoint control by that group be removed for 60 days; (4) that no group may set up a checkpoint on the Main Haysh Fork. The agreement further confirms the members of the committee tasked with solving the problem.

Agreement document [SY_181127_Babulin Checkpoint Agreement, Idlib Countryside_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_181127_Babulin Checkpoint Agreement, Idlib Countryside_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 Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Other
Page 1, Third: The committee has decided to remove this checkpoint in coordination with the command of the group during a period of 60 days (two months).

Page 1, Fourth: No group has the right to establish any checkpoint on the Main Haysh Fork, no matter who they are.

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 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 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 1, First: It has been proven that the control of the checkpoint belongs to the Syrian Liberation Front (Jabhat Tahrir Suriyya).

Page 1, Second: As a result of the violations that are taking place around the checkpoint [ILLEGIBLE] that harm the security in the area, the responsibility of these violations is on the checkpoint itself because these individuals are from the same group that controls the checkpoint.

Page 1, Third: The committee has decided to remove this checkpoint in coordination with the command of the group during a period of 60 days (two months).

Page 1, Fourth: No group has the right to establish any checkpoint on the Main Haysh Fork, no matter who they are.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

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, First: It has been proven that the control of the checkpoint belongs to the Syrian Liberation Front (Jabhat Tahrir Suriyya).

Page 1, Second: As a result of the violations that are taking place around the checkpoint [ILLEGIBLE] that harm the security in the area, the responsibility of these violations is on the checkpoint itself because these individuals are from the same group that controls the checkpoint.

Page 1, Third: The committee has decided to remove this checkpoint in coordination with the command of the group during a period of 60 days (two months).

Page 1, Fourth: No group has the right to establish any checkpoint on the Main Haysh Fork, no matter who they are.

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	No specific mention.
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Vetting	No specific mention.
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Victims	No specific mention.
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Missing persons	No specific mention.
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Reparations	No specific mention.
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Reconciliation	No specific mention.
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Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
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Other international signatory	No specific mention.
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Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	<p>Page 1, The two sides have agreed to task a committee made up of the people of the area to listen to the testimonies of both sides and the testimonies of witnesses.</p> <p>Page 1, The committee tasked with solving the problem: Khalid Saloum [Signed] Ahmad Ismael [Signed] Khalil Al Abdullah [Signed] Saleh Al Saloum [Signed] Khalid Al Faris [Signed]</p>
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	Source: on file with Author.
