

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Initiative to Stop the Ongoing Fighting between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and Harakat Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya (AAS)
Date	19 Jul 2017
Agreement status	Unilateral document
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	Sheikh Abu Muhammad al-Sadiq Sheikh Abd al-Rizq al-Mahdi Sheikh Abi Hamzah al-Masri

Third parties Tahrir al-Sham and Harakat Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya

Description 4 point proposal by three sheikhs to end fighting between Tahrir al-Sham and Harakat Ahrar al-Sham al-Islamiyya. Calls for a ceasefire, the delegation of three individuals from each side, a meeting between the delegates. Hayat Tahrir al-Sham respond positively the same day (19.07.2019, see Initiative to Stop the Ongoing Fighting between HTS and Ahrar al-Sham), and then a agreement was announced via a statement on the 21.07.2019 (see Statement on Ceasefire between Ahrar al-Sham Hayat Tahrir al-Sham). This was broken and then renewed in an agreement on the 23.07.2019 (see Second Ceasefire between Ahrar al-Sham and Hayat Tahrir al-Sham).

Agreement document [SY_170719_Initiative to Stop the Ongoing Fighting between HTS and Ahrar al-Sham_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language) [SY_170719_Initiative to Stop the Ongoing Fighting between HTS and Ahrar al-Sham_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 Groups→Religious groups→Rhetorical
Page 1, In order to stem the blood of Muslims and spare loss in the midst of ongoing fighting, give priority to dialogue and resort to war, we call the conflict parties to the following:

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	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, 2. All among the fighting parties are mandated to delegate three individuals authorized to make decisions on behalf of their party.

Page 1, 3. Both sides agree on three independents in the likelihood of controversy.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1, 1. Cease fighting operations as of 12.00 on Wednesday 23 Shuwal 1438, corresponding to 19 July 2017.

Page 1, 2. All among the fighting parties are mandated to delegate three individuals authorized to make decisions on behalf of their party.

Page 1, 3. Both sides agree on three independents in the likelihood of controversy.

Page 1, 4. The Delegates from the two sides meet will meet with the independents to resolve the differences between them and develop a binding and comprehensive vision that takes into account the political, military and civil rights of the parties within seven days from the start date.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

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.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source al-Souria.net, 'Initiative of four points to stop clashes between THS and Ahrar al-Sham', 20 July 2017, <http://bit.ly/2EKmL7x>

