

Country/entity	Syria
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Final signed agreement for al-Waer
Date	13 Mar 2017
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	Ceasefire/related
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Intra-Syrian Process (state/non-state)
Parties	Representatives of al-Waer Neighbourhood Representatives of the Security Committee in Homs Governorate The Russian side
Third parties	-
Description	Final agreement of a long negotiation process for al-Waer neighbourhood in the city of Homs. The agreement provides for the renewal of a ceasefire, a settlement programme that includes DDR and an amnesty for defectors of the Syrian army. The agreement also organises the evacuation of opposition fighters under the supervision of the Russian army, and includes the lifting of checkpoints.

Agreement document	SY_170313_Final signed agreement for al-Waer_TR.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
Agreement document (original language)	SY_170313_Final signed agreement for al-Waer.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	Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Anti-discrimination Page 2, 10. No innocent person shall be arrested because of kinship.
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 Page 1,
2. Settlement process:
E – The status of employees and students will be settled by the authorities concerned with their affairs.

Page 2,
8. Reactivating the public facilities, starting with their preparation, opening the roads leading to them, and securing them by the Homs Governorate, in coordination with al-Waer neighbourhood committee.
9. A committee shall be formed to preserve the property and documents of the justice palace [the court] and hand it over to the Governor of Homs or his representative upon entering al-Waer neighbourhood.

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 2,
6. Opening the crossings:
A – The Mohandesin roundabout crossing will be opened in both directions (for pedestrians only) after the first batch of militants leave.
B – Food and goods normally enter after the first batch of militants have left.

7. The issue of ensuring the security of civilians in al-Waer neighbourhood is the responsibility of the general intelligence branch and the civil police in coordination with the Russian military police to preserve citizens' property and secure crossings entry and exit for citizens (from and to) al-Waer neighbourhood. The Homs security committee ensures that no other party enters al-Waer neighbourhood.

8. Reactivating the public facilities, starting with their preparation, opening the roads leading to them, and securing them by the Homs Governorate, in coordination with al-Waer neighbourhood committee.

Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians Page 2, 7. The issue of ensuring the security of civilians in al-Waer neighbourhood is the responsibility of the general intelligence branch and the civil police in coordination with the Russian military police to preserve citizens' property and secure crossings entry and exit for citizens (from and to) al-Waer neighbourhood. The Homs security committee ensures that no other party enters al-Waer neighbourhood.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
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Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.
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Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
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State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
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Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
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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	Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction Page 2, 8. Reactivating the public facilities, starting with their preparation, opening the roads leading to them, and securing them by the Homs Governorate, in coordination with al-Waer neighbourhood committee.
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National economic plan	No specific mention.
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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,
C – The Syrian forces and the Russian forces bear full responsibility for the safety of those leaving the neighbourhood.

Page 2,
7. The issue of ensuring the security of civilians in al-Waer neighbourhood is the responsibility of the general intelligence branch and the civil police in coordination with the Russian military police to preserve citizens' property and secure crossings entry and exit for citizens (from and to) al-Waer neighbourhood. The Homs security committee ensures that no other party enters al-Waer neighbourhood.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments
1. Continuation of the cease-fire.

Police

Page 2,

5. The 7th Island and al-Waer orchards [two neighbourhoods in al-Waer] will be fully received simultaneously with the exit of the last batch of militants, with the participation of the Russian military police

Page 2,

7. The issue of ensuring the security of civilians in al-Waer neighbourhood is the responsibility of the general intelligence branch and the civil police in coordination with the Russian military police to preserve citizens' property and secure crossings entry and exit for citizens (from and to) al-Waer neighbourhood. The Homs security committee ensures that no other party enters al-Waer neighbourhood.

Armed forces

No specific mention.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 1,

2. Settlement process:

A – Opening the settlement centre in the Criminal Security Branch in al-Waer neighbourhood and settling the situation (Those who wish) of militants and the rest of the wanted individuals, starting from 12 March 2017, over a period of (24) hours.

B – Every militant who performs the settlement process and does not handover his weapon pledges that he does not own any weapon, and if he is caught possessing a weapon, the settlement will be cancelled, and legal measures will be taken against him.

Intelligence services

Page 2,

7. The issue of ensuring the security of civilians in al-Waer neighbourhood is the responsibility of the general intelligence branch and the civil police in coordination with the Russian military police to preserve citizens' property and secure crossings entry and exit for citizens (from and to) al-Waer neighbourhood. The Homs security committee ensures that no other party enters al-Waer neighbourhood.

**Parastatal/rebel
and opposition
group forces**

Page 1,

3. The process of exit from al-Waer neighbourhood

A – The departure of the first batch of militants is within seven days from the date of signing the agreement, with a number of (1500) people, provided that among them there are (400-500) militants.

B – The exit of the batch will continue on a weekly basis and in the same number until the end of the agreement.

C – The Syrian forces and the Russian forces bear full responsibility for the safety of those leaving the neighbourhood.

D – The exit process is organized to one of the following areas: (Jarablus - Idlib – the northern countryside of Homs).

Page 2,

5. The 7th Island and al-Waer orchards [two neighbourhoods in al-Waer] will be fully received simultaneously with the exit of the last batch of militants, with the participation of the Russian military police.

Page 2,

6. Opening the crossings:

A – The Mohandesin roundabout crossing will be opened in both directions (for pedestrians only) after the first batch of militants leave.

B – Food and goods normally enter after the first batch of militants have left.

**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	<p>Page 1, A – Opening the settlement centre in the Criminal Security Branch in al-Waer neighbourhood and settling the situation (Those who wish) of militants and the rest of the wanted individuals, starting from 12 March 2017, over a period of (24) hours.</p> <p>Page 2, 4. A general committee will be formed consisting of representatives (al-Waer neighbourhood committee – Homs' security committee – the Russian side) to supervise the implementation of the settlement and resolve violations.</p>
Amnesty/pardon	<p>Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Relief of other sanctions</p> <p>Page 1, F – The conditions of deserters from the Syrian Arab Army are dealt with by placing them in a temporary settlement centre, and they are not subject to any penalty related to their escape until their situation is resolved by returning them to conscription service G – Those who fail to perform conscription service, or reserve service, are given six months to regularize their status.</p> <p>Page 2, 10. No innocent person shall be arrested because of kinship.</p>
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 Page 2:

The Russian side

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/113751/1/LASA_four_towns.pdf
