

<b>Country/entity</b>	Syria
<b>Region</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>Agreement name</b>	Homs Ceasefire
<b>Date</b>	4 Dec 2015
<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>	Government Deeb Zaytūn, head of the Syrian Intelligence Talāl al-Barāzī, Governor of Homs  Rebel Groups Faylaq al-Shām: Āhrār al-Shām and Katā'ib al-Jihād al-Islāmī [participants not noted in agreement]
<b>Third parties</b>	International Observers Yaqoub al-Helo, the representative of the United Nations Development Program in Syria Khoula Matar, head of UN and Arab League Envoy to Syria Staffan De Mistura's political office.
<b>Description</b>	A short truce for the city of Homs allowing for the withdrawal of non-state militants, disarmament, relocation of civilians and past provisions for victims.

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**Agreement document** [SY\\_151207\\_Homs Ceasefire\\_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

**Agreement document (original language)** [SY\\_151207\\_Homs Ceasefire\\_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** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical  
Page 1, Second Phase:  
4. Civilians who left or were displaced shall return to the neighbourhood.

**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** No specific mention.

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## **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.

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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** Page 1, First Phase:  
4. Humanitarian organisations will be permitted to do their work

**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** No specific mention.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** No specific mention.

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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** No specific mention.

**Protection measures** Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other  
Page 1, Second Phase:  
1. The roads leading to general services (the Post Office, and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs) and the government roundabouts ([the roundabouts including] the station, the Judicial Palace and the blood bank, etc.) will be opened. The protection of roads will be undertaken by a limited number of men from the intelligence services and the police for the specified duration exclusively. The police and intelligence services will be responsible for the operation of these services, whereon this will be discussed with the Central Negotiation Commission.

**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** Page 1, Second Phase:  
5. Release of those who have been arrested, except for convicts or those referred to court, and of those kidnapped on both sides.

**Prisons and detention** No specific mention.

**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→Humanitarian assistance  
Page 1, First Phase:  
4. Humanitarian organisations will be permitted to do their work

**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** Page 1, Second Phase:  
2. The roads leading to general services (the Post Office, and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs) and the government roundabouts ([the roundabouts including] the station, the Judicial Palace and the blood bank, etc.) will be opened. The protection of roads will be undertaken by a limited number of men from the intelligence services and the police for the specified duration exclusively. The police and intelligence services will be responsible for the operation of these services, whereon this will be discussed with the Central Negotiation Commission.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

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## **Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** Page 2, Third Phase:  
At the end of these terms, the situation of the areas of Jazīrah al-Siba'ah and al-Basatīn will be assessed in a meeting between the two sides.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision  
Page 1, First Phase:  
1. A full ceasefire for a period of ten days from the date of signing the agreement.  
2. Expulsion [from the talks] of those who contravene or breach this agreement  
... 5. The 'Diwār Muhandisīn' Road connecting the al-Wa'ir neighbourhood and the city will be opened for pedestrians only. [Government] Security forces will establish a checkpoint. Those wishing to relocate outside the neighbourhood will be allowed to return to settle their affairs in the office located beside the checkpoint. Those needing to settle [further] issues are to be taken to the [city] centre.

Page 1, At the end of the first phase, the actions taken will be evaluated to avoid negative repercussions. The undertaking of phase one is also limited to 25 days, and on the condition that no article will be implemented unless article one is upheld.

**Police** Page 1, Second Phase:  
1. The roads leading to general services (the Post Office, and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs) and the government roundabouts ([the roundabouts including] the station, the Judicial Palace and the blood bank, etc.) will be opened. The protection of roads will be undertaken by a limited number of men from the intelligence services and the police for the specified duration exclusively. The police and intelligence services will be responsible for the operation of these services, whereon this will be discussed with the Central Negotiation Commission.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR**

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 1, First Phase:

... 3. Presentation of a list of medium and heavy weapons, which are to be surrendered during the second phase.

Page 1, Second Phase:

1. All medium and heavy weaponry is to be gathered by the Joint Commission consisting of the Neighbourhood and Regime Committees. The weapons will remain in storage facilities within the neighbourhood (in the al-Barr Hospital). These arms will be barred from use and under the supervision of the Joint Commission.

Page 1, Second Phase:

3. A plan will be presented that includes mine disposal within the neighbourhood, except the area of al-Jazīrah al-Siba'ah.

6. Medium and heavy weapons located in the al-Barr Hospital will be handed over to the regime.

**Intelligence services**

Page 1, Second Phase:

1. The roads leading to general services (the Post Office, and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs) and the government roundabouts ([the roundabouts including] the station, the Judicial Palace and the blood bank, etc.) will be opened. The protection of roads will be undertaken by a limited number of men from the intelligence services and the police for the specified duration exclusively. The police and intelligence services will be responsible for the operation of these services, whereon this will be discussed with the Central Negotiation Commission.

**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** First Phase:  
... 6. The Neighbourhood Committee shall prepare lists of those missing, kidnapped, or of unknown fate, and will thereby work to determine their fates. In addition, a list of names shall be prepared to include those arrested and facing prison sentences by the regime, [who will later] be released upon surrendering medium and heavy weaponry in the second phase.

Page 1, Second Phase:  
5. Release of those who have been arrested, except for convicts or those referred to court, and of those kidnapped on both sides.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** First Phase:  
... 6. The Neighbourhood Committee shall prepare lists of those missing, kidnapped, or of unknown fate, and will thereby work to determine their fates. In addition, a list of names shall be prepared to include those arrested and facing prison sentences by the regime, [who will later] be released upon surrendering medium and heavy weaponry in the second phase.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

## Implementation

**UN signatory** International Observers  
Yaqoub al-Helo, the representative of the United Nations Development Program in Syria [signatory status unknown.]  
Khoula Matar, head of UN and Arab League Envoy to Syria Staffan De Mistura's political office. [signatory status unknown.]

**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** Source: 'Al-Arabi al-Jadeed publishes the truce agreement for al-Wa'er neighbourhood in Homs', al-Araby, 4 December 2015, <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/politics/2015/12/3/العربي-الجديد-ينشر-اتفاق-هدنة-حي-الوعر-في-حمص>

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