

Country/entity Lebanon
Syria

Region Middle East and North Africa

Agreement name Arsal 24-Hour Ceasefire Agreement

Date 5 Aug 2014

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	Syrian Local Agreements
Parties	Syrian rebels (Islamist), Lebanese Armed Forces

Third parties

-

Description

A 24-hour humanitarian ceasefire following fighting between Syrian factions and Lebanese Armed Forces allowing for the evacuation of civilians and wounded. Implementation managed by a joint committee of 'Syrian jurists' and Arsal inhabitants. Ceasefire broken in less than 24 hours.

Agreement document

[LB_SY_140805_Arsal Ceasefire_EN.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Agreement document (original language)

[LB_SY_140805_Arsal Ceasefire_AR.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#)

Groups**Children/youth**

Groups→Children/youth→Substantive
Page 1,
4. The wounded will be transported [out] and civilians are permitted to leave, particularly women and children. Under the supervision of the Arsal Committee, doctors will be brought in to treat those who cannot be moved,.

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	Page 1, 4. The wounded will be transported [out] and civilians are permitted to leave, particularly women and children. Under the supervision of the Arsal Committee, doctors will be brought in to treat those who cannot be moved,.
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	<p>Page 1, 1. Form a Committee consisting of the people of Aarsal [‘ Aarsal] and some Syrian jurists to manage Aarsal, stay updated on the security situation and ensure the implementation of this initiative under the supervision of the Lebanese Institute for Democracy and Human Rights (LIFE) and the Muslim Scholars Association.</p> <p>Page 1, 3. As a gesture of goodwill, the fighters will release three Lebanese soldiers in return for the entry of media bodies and humanitarian relief organisations.</p>
Traditional/religious leaders	<p>Page 1, 1. Form a Committee consisting of the people of Aarsal [‘ Aarsal] and some Syrian jurists to manage Aarsal, stay updated on the security situation and ensure the implementation of this initiative under the supervision of the Lebanese Institute for Democracy and Human Rights (LIFE) and the Muslim Scholars Association.</p>
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 Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other
Page 1, 3. As a gesture of goodwill, the fighters will release three Lebanese soldiers in return for the entry of media bodies and humanitarian relief organisations.

Mobility/access Page 1, 5. Permit the delivery of food, medical and humanitarian aid to the town of Aarsal.

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 Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance
Page 1, 5. Permit the delivery of food, medical and humanitarian aid to the town of Arsal.

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

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision

Page 1,

2. All warring parties are obliged to withdraw from Aarsal and hand over the area to the Committee.

Page 1,

3. As a gesture of goodwill, the fighters will release three Lebanese soldiers in return for the entry of media bodies and humanitarian relief organisations.

Page 1,

4. The wounded will be transported [out] and civilians are permitted to leave, particularly women and children. Under the supervision of the Aarsal Committee, doctors will be brought in to treat those who cannot be moved.

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 Page 1, 3. As a gesture of goodwill, the fighters will release three Lebanese soldiers in return for the entry of media bodies and humanitarian relief organisations.

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-Arabi al-Jadeed, <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/politics/2014/8/5/%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%81%D8%A7%D9%82-%D8%B9%D9%84%D9%89-%D9%88%D9%82%D9%81-%D8%A5%D8%B7%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%82-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D9%84%D9%8024-%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A9-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%B3%D8%A7%D9%84>
