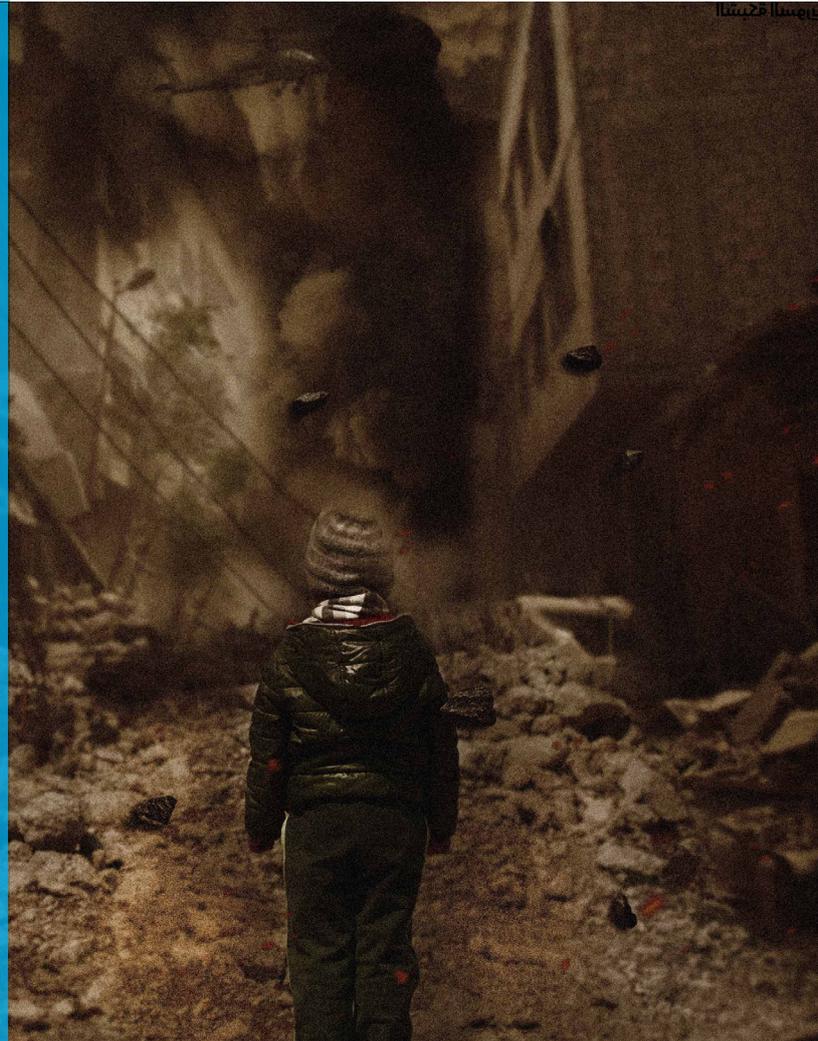


## 568 Civilians, Including 115 Children, 53 Women, and 101 Victims Who Died Due to Torture, Were Documented Killed in Syria in the First Half of 2022

SNHR Documented the Deaths of 92  
Civilians in June 2022, Including  
19 children, 16 Women, and  
Six Victims Who Died Due to Torture



Saturday 02 July 2022

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.

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## I. Background and Methodology

This report records the death toll of victims whose deaths were documented by Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) as taking place at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria in May 2022, particularly focusing on those victims killed under torture, and victims amongst medical personnel killed by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces which the SNHR was able to document in this period.

We should note that in this context, we use the term “massacre” to refer to any attack that resulted in the deaths of five or more peaceful individuals in the same incident.

The report also includes an outline of the most notable incidents during this period. Finally, we maintain the full details of every incident on the SNHR database.

The documentation process to register victims killed in Syria has been one of the most important roles performed by SNHR since March 2011. This is all the more crucial since murder is the most prevalent of all the violations perpetrated, and the one which most profoundly affects the Syrian people, with countless families suffering incalculable and irreparable trauma through the loss of fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends, etc.

These violations have become so widespread primarily through Syrian regime forces’ and affiliated militias’ systematic killing of civilians, with these forces being almost the sole perpetrators of killings from the aforementioned date up to the beginning of 2012. The regime began by using tanks and artillery, then proceeded to also use warplanes and helicopter gunships which have deployed barrel bombs, in addition to Scud missiles and chemical weapons.

The entry of several other parties into the Syrian conflict has further increased the importance and complexity of documenting the victims killed in Syria.

The killing of civilians in Syria has continued for the eleventh consecutive year, as it has continuously since the outbreak of the popular uprising for democracy in Syria in March 2011, resulting in casualty numbers that are among the largest worldwide; this underlines the fact that Syria is still the most dangerous nation in the world for civilians, and remains an exceptionally insecure and perilous environment wholly unsuitable for the return of refugees.

The report catalogues the death toll of victims according to the perpetrator parties in the Syrian conflict. Accurately ascribing responsibility sometimes requires more time and investigation than usual, especially in the case of joint attacks. We also face additional challenges in assigning responsibility for the attack in some incidents of ground bombardment, especially those in which the source of the bombardment is an area adjacent to the control of another party among the controlling forces, continuing our investigations until we are able to conclusively identify the party responsible for the bombardment.

In addition, in cases where we are unable to definitively assign responsibility for a particular killing to one of two possible parties because of the area's proximity to the lines of engagement, the use of similar weapons, or other reasons, the incident is categorized among 'other parties' until we have sufficient evidence to conclusively assign responsibility for the violation to one of the two parties.

The parties to the conflict who this report documents as committing extrajudicial killings are:

**A. The main parties:**

- Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias)
- Russian forces
- ISIS
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army
- Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party)

**B. Other parties**

We at the SNHR are keen to accurately attribute incidents to those responsible, but we exclude two types of attacks from the process of assigning responsibility that we carry out, namely anti-personnel landmines, and remote explosions, including suicide or forced suicide attacks. We discussed this issue previously in [detailed reports](#).

As for the anonymous victims whose names we haven't yet been able to determine or on whom we have so far been unable to find any identifying information or any picture or video footage, these cases are catalogued in a private archive until any information indicating these victims' identity has been found which would enable their cases to be transferred to the victims' archive, with their names and other details registered accordingly.

Through use of SNHR's extensive database, we can catalogue the victims according to the governorate where they were killed, and also by the governorate from which they originally came. This report catalogues the death toll of victims according to the governorate in which they were killed, rather than by the governorate they originally came from.

In this report, we record only the death toll of civilians, whose deaths we were able to document during the last month. SNHR does not document the deaths of fighters and militants killed during the conflict, while some of the victims documented may have been killed months or even years ago, as in some cases of death due to torture; in these cases, where the deaths have only recently been confirmed, we include two dates, the date when we were able to document the victim's death, and the date on which we think the death occurred.

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<sup>1</sup> We generally use the term 'the Syrian regime' rather than 'the Syrian government', because the nature of the ruling power in Syria is a totalitarian dictatorship based on ruling the nation in an authoritarian fashion through a very limited group of individuals, primarily the President of the Republic and his selected leaders of the security services, while the ministers, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior, play a restricted, largely ceremonial role, which is limited to implementing precisely what the ruling regime orders, without any decision-making power or active role; this means that the government's role is wholly subordinate and limited to serving the regime, with all the main powers being concentrated in the hands of the President of the Republic and the security services. Governance in Syria is wholly decided by the autocratic authority of the ruling family and there is no independent decision-making structure. Rather, the government is an empty façade there for show; the Minister of Interior receives orders from the security branches over which he nominally presides which are in reality under the command of the President, while the Minister of Justice cannot summon a civilian-level security agent other than the head of a security branch; the security branches, along with the president, are the true power and the governing regime in Syria.

<sup>2</sup> The United Nations has designated it as a terrorist organization

The methodology adopted by the Syrian Network for Human Rights in documenting the victims can be seen at this link.<sup>3</sup>

This report draws upon the ongoing daily monitoring of news and developments by SNHR's team, and on information from our extensive network of various sources that has been built up over the course of our work since 2011. The SNHR also provides [a special form](#) that can be completed by victims' relatives with victims' names and personal information so that the Victims Documentation Department can follow up on the information provided, verify its accuracy and then include it in the database.

We note that the death toll of victims detailed on SNHR's database includes extrajudicial killings by the controlling forces which occurred as a violation of either international human rights law or international humanitarian law or both, but does not include cases of natural deaths or those which occurred because of disputes between members of society or other such issues.

Our investigations confirm that all of the attacks included in this report that were carried out by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria targeted civilian areas where we documented no military presence or armories before or during the attacks, and in which the perpetrators failed to issue any warnings to civilians prior to any of the attacks as required by international humanitarian law.

This report only represents the bare minimum of the actual severity and magnitude of the violations that occurred. Also, it doesn't include any analysis of the profound social, economic, and psychological ramifications.

## II. Summary of the Most Notable Killings in June

Like every previous month, June saw a continuation of the carnage in Syria, with SNHR documenting an increase in the death toll for this month compared to the preceding one. Most of the victims in June were killed at the hands of other parties, with the largest number of victims slain in Daraa governorate, which saw a massacre of 10 civilians, including four children and four women, who were killed by the explosion of a landmine planted by a party that we have been unable to identify. In addition to these deaths, a number of other people were killed in Daraa governorate as a result of gunfire by parties that we have been unable to identify; it is noteworthy that most of those killed were among the people who had previously settled their security status with the Syrian regime.

Meanwhile, the SNHR documented the deaths of 12 civilians, including three children and one woman, at the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party). These victims were killed in Aleppo, Deir Ez-Zour, Raqqa, and Hasaka governorates, as a result of gunfire by Syrian Democratic Forces, as well as by missile launcher shelling by the same forces.

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<sup>3</sup> The methodology adopted by the Syrian Network for Human Rights'. SNHR. <<[http://sn4hr.org/public\\_html/wp-content/pdf/english/SNHR\\_Methodology\\_en.pdf](http://sn4hr.org/public_html/wp-content/pdf/english/SNHR_Methodology_en.pdf)>>

On Wednesday, June 1, 2022, Wasim al Barho al Hasraji, his brother Bashar, and another civilian, Khaled Jasem al Halisi, [were killed](#), and about 10 other people wounded when Syrian Democratic Forces stationed in Ein Eisa city north of Raqqa governorate used missile launchers to bomb a market in Tal Abyad city in Raqqa governorate's northern suburbs.

On Thursday, June 9, 2022, a seventeen-year-old boy, Amjad Muhammad Fateh Abeid al Okla, a high school student from al Shenan village in eastern Deir Ez-Zour governorate [was shot and killed](#) by Syrian Democratic Forces personnel when they opened fire on several students as the children were passing by the river-crossing in Theyban town in eastern Deir Ez-Zour governorate on their way home from sitting their school exams.

On Thursday, June 9, 2022, Hamed al Nasser from al Attala village of al Shaddadi city in southern Hasaka governorate, an imam of a mosque in the village, [was shot and killed](#) by Syrian Democratic Forces personnel during a raid on his home in the village.

On Monday, June 6, 2022, the body of Ibrahim Ahmad Thiab, born in 1996, from al Zamaniya village east of Damascus Suburbs governorate, who had been living in al Msaifra town east of Daraa governorate, [was found](#) by residents near al Jeiza town in the eastern suburbs of Daraa governorate, with his body bearing visible gunshot wounds. Ibrahim was among those who previously settled their security status with the Syrian regime.

On Sunday, June 16, 2022, a sixty-one-year-old civilian, Ammar Ali al Manajra, from Tal Shehab town in the western suburbs of Daraa governorate was [shot and killed](#) in front of his home in the town by unidentified gunmen. The town is under the control of Syrian regime forces.

Al Hawl Camp<sup>4</sup> in the eastern suburbs of Hasaka, which is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces, continued to witness killings. In June, we documented the deaths of six women at the hands of gunmen, who we have been unable to identify.

The body of Fatima al Shwaiti, from Deir Ez-Zour city, [was found](#) in a sewer pipe in Sector Five of al Hawl Camp for IDPs, bearing gunshot wounds.

On Wednesday, June 15, 2022, Amer Alfin, from Homs governorate, Director of the Humanitarian Relief Organization (IYD) in al Bab city in eastern Aleppo governorate, [was killed](#) by the explosion of an improvised explosive device planted by an unknown party in a car in al Gharbi neighborhood in the city, which is under the control of the Syrian National Army.

Also in June, we documented the death of two children due to lack of medical care, poor living conditions, and poor medical capabilities in the displacement camps.

On Friday, June 3, 2022, a two-year-old girl Khetam Hasan al Abdullah, from Hama governorate, resident of al Rashedeen Camp for IDPs in northwestern Raqqa city, who was suffering from Meningitis, [died](#) due to the lack of medical care in the camp, which is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces.

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<sup>4</sup> A camp located east of Hasaka city, near the Iraqi-Syrian border, which houses nearly 60,000 people

On Monday, June 20, 2022, a four-year-old boy, Ayed Ahmad al Matar, who was displaced along with his family from Ma'dan city in eastern Raqqa governorate, [died](#) of meningitis, while living with his family in the Tal al Bay'a Camp in eastern Raqqa city, due to the lack of medical care in the camp, which is under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces.

June also saw continuing civilian deaths as a result of landmine explosions, with SNHR documenting the deaths of 16 civilians, including nine children and four women, throughout the month, bringing the death toll from landmine explosions since the beginning of 2022 to 76 civilians, including 39 children and nine women.

On Sunday, June 5, Abdullah and Omar Asaad al Abdullah, two children, siblings, age 7 and 8, from Oun al Dadat village of Manbej city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, [were killed](#) by the explosion of a landmine planted by unknown parties in the vicinity of the village.

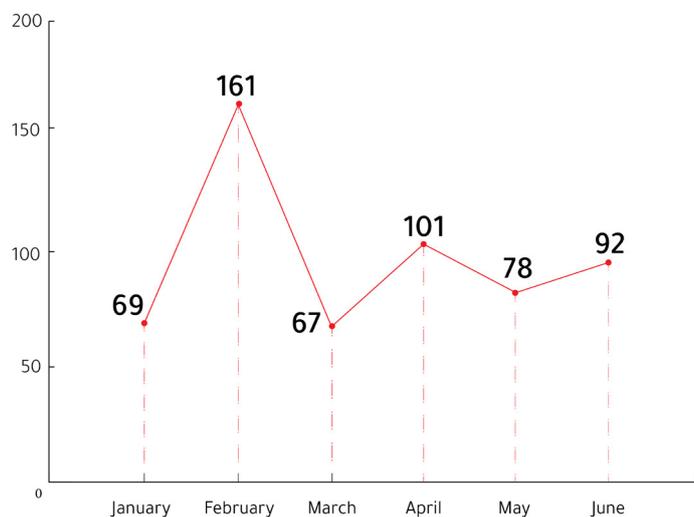
### III. Death Toll of Civilian Victims

#### 1. In the first half of 2022:

SNHR documented the deaths of 568 civilians, including 115 children and 53 women (adult female), killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria in 2022.

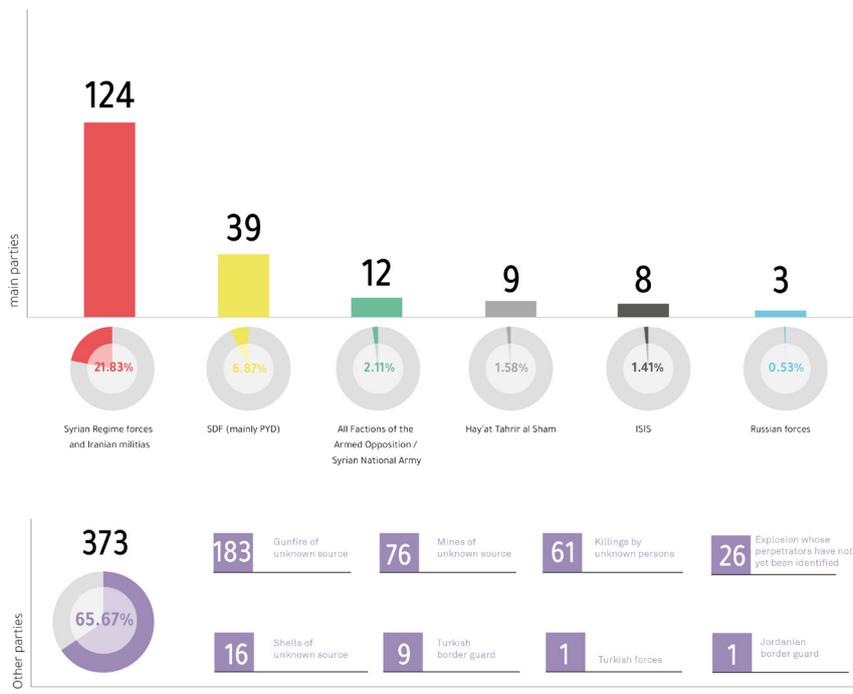
The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria since the beginning of 2022 was distributed as follows:

We note an increase in the number of deaths in the past month compared to May of the same year. We documented the largest monthly number of deaths in February, which accounted for approximately 28% of the total, followed by April, with approximately 18%, and then June, with approximately 16%.

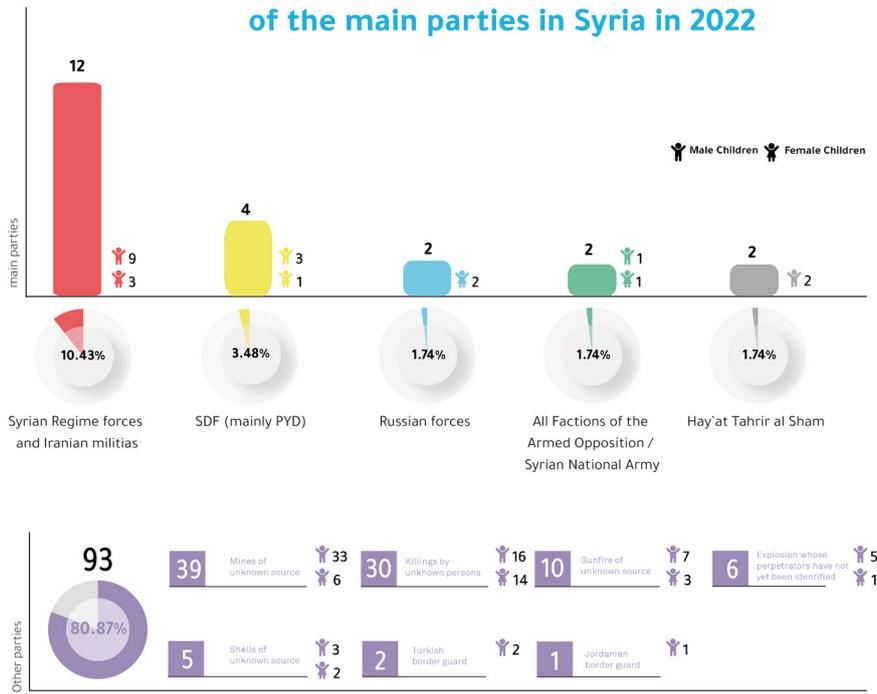


The death toll we documented in the first half of 2022 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:

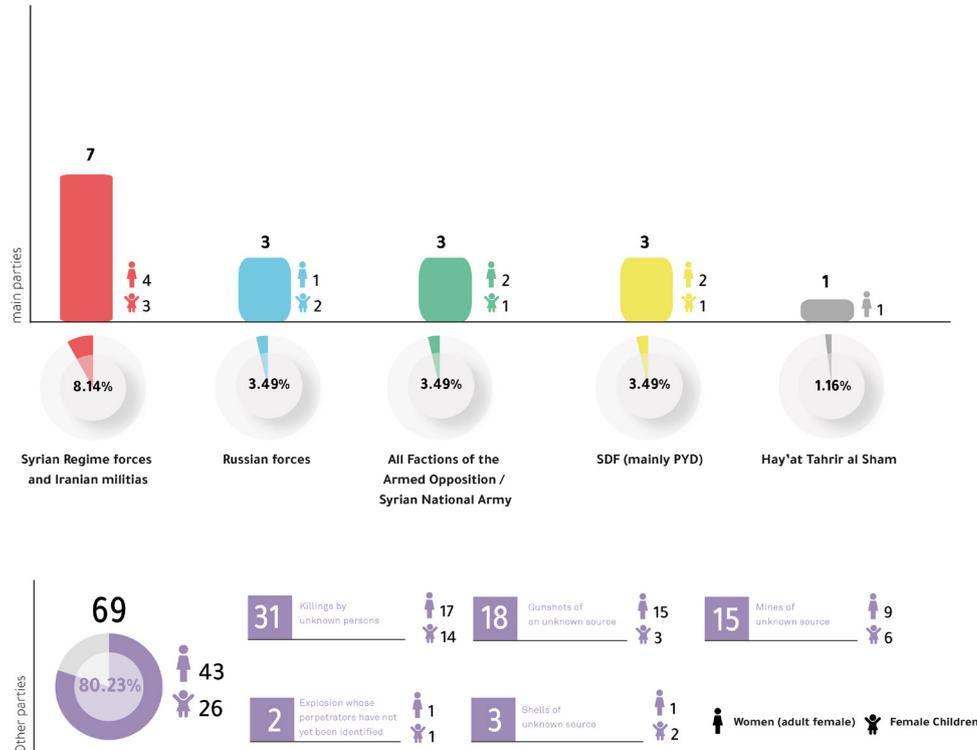
## 568 civilians were killed at the hands of the main parties in Syria in 2022



## 115 children were killed at the hands of the main parties in Syria in 2022



## 86 females were killed at the hands of the main parties in Syria in 2022



### A. The main parties:

#### - Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias)<sup>4</sup>:

We documented the deaths of 124 civilians, including 12 children and four women, at the hands of Syrian regime forces.

#### - Russian forces:

We documented the deaths of three civilians, including two children and one women, at the hands of Russian forces.

#### - ISIS:

We documented the deaths of eight civilians at the hands of ISIS.

<sup>4</sup> We generally use the term "the Syrian regime" rather than "the Syrian government," because the nature of the ruling power in Syria is a totalitarian dictatorship based on ruling the nation in an authoritarian fashion through a very limited group of individuals, primarily the President of the Republic and his selected leaders of the security services, while the ministers, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior, play a restricted, largely ceremonial role, which is limited to implementing precisely what the ruling regime orders, without any decision-making power or active role; this means that the government's role is wholly subordinate and limited to serving the regime, with all the main powers being concentrated in the hands of the President of the Republic and the security services. Governance in Syria is wholly decided by the autocratic authority of the ruling family and there is no independent decision-making structure. Rather, the government is an empty façade there for show; the Minister of Interior receives orders from the security branches over which he nominally presides which are in reality under the command of the President, while the Minister of Justice cannot summon a civilian-level security agent other than the head of a security branch; the security branches, along with the president, are the true power and the governing regime in Syria.

**- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:**

We documented the death of nine civilians, including two children and one woman, at the hands of Hay'at Tahrir al Sham.

**- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army:**

We documented the deaths of 12 civilians, including two children and two women, at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army.

**- Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party):**

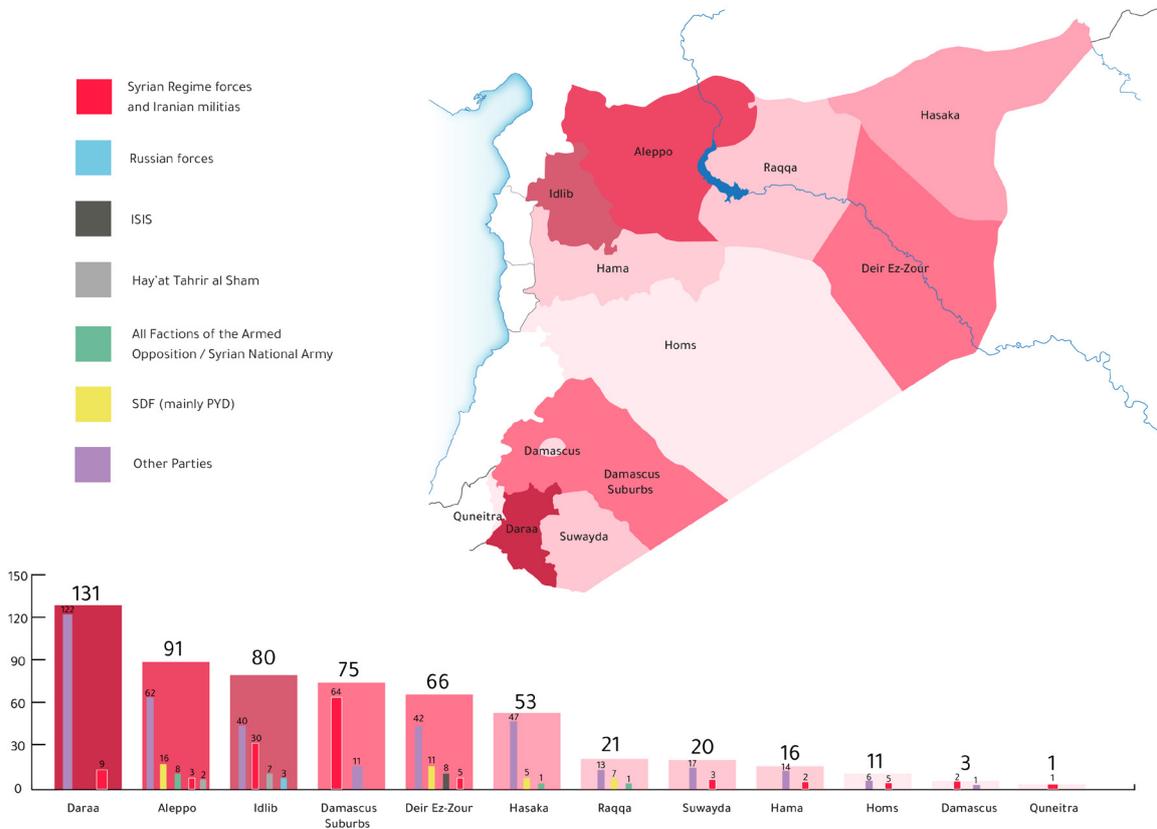
We documented the deaths of 39 civilians, including four children and two women, at the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces.

**B. Other parties:**

We documented the deaths of 373 civilians, including 93 children and 43 women, at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Gunfire whose source we have been unable to identify: 183 civilians, including 10 children and 15 women.
- Landmines whose source we have been unable to identify: 76 civilians, including 39 children and nine women.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: 61 civilians, including 30 children and 17 women.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have been unable to identify: 26 civilians, including six children and one woman.
- Turkish border guards: Nine civilians, including two children.
- Jordanian forces: One child.
- Turkish forces: One civilian.

The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces documented in the first half of 2022 was distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:

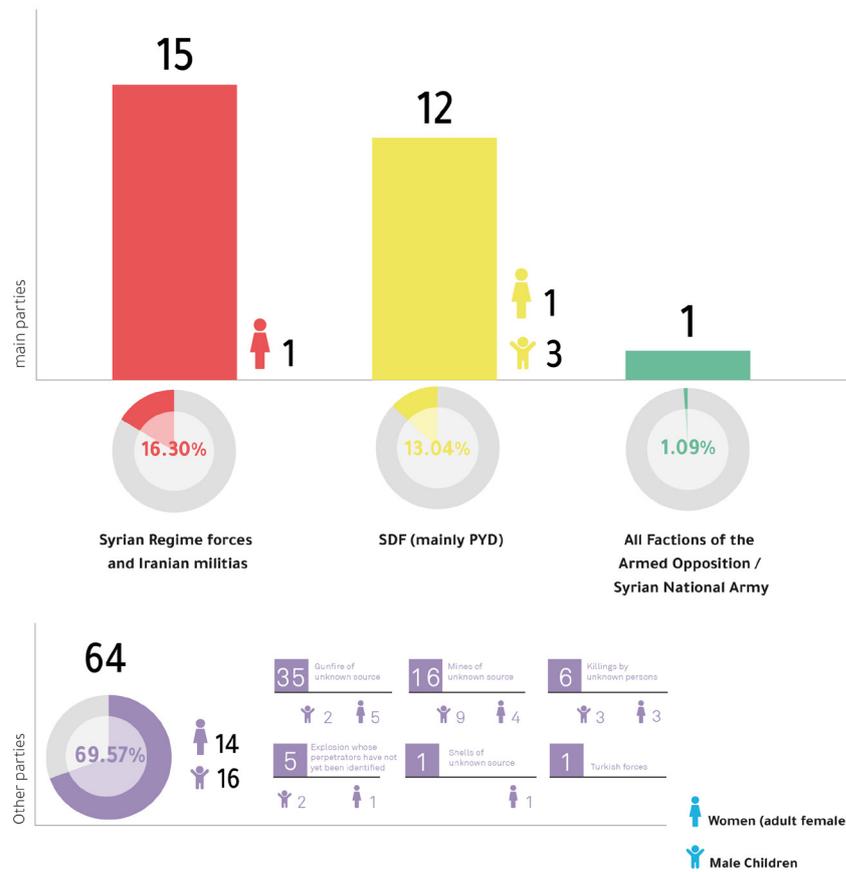


Daraa governorate saw the largest monthly death toll compared to other Syrian governorates, accounting for 23% of the total death toll since the beginning of 2022, with most of the victims in Daraa governorate killed at the hands of other parties. Aleppo governorate came second, accounting for 16%, followed by Idlib and Damascus Suburbs with approximately 14% and 13% respectively.

**2. In June 2022:**

In June, SNHR documented the deaths of 92 civilians, including 19 children and 16 women (adult female), killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The death toll we documented in June 2022 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:

**- Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):**

We documented the deaths of 15 civilians, including one woman, at the hands of Syrian regime forces.

**- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army:**

We documented the death of one civilian at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army.

**- Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party):**

We documented the deaths of 12 civilians, including three children and one woman, at the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces.

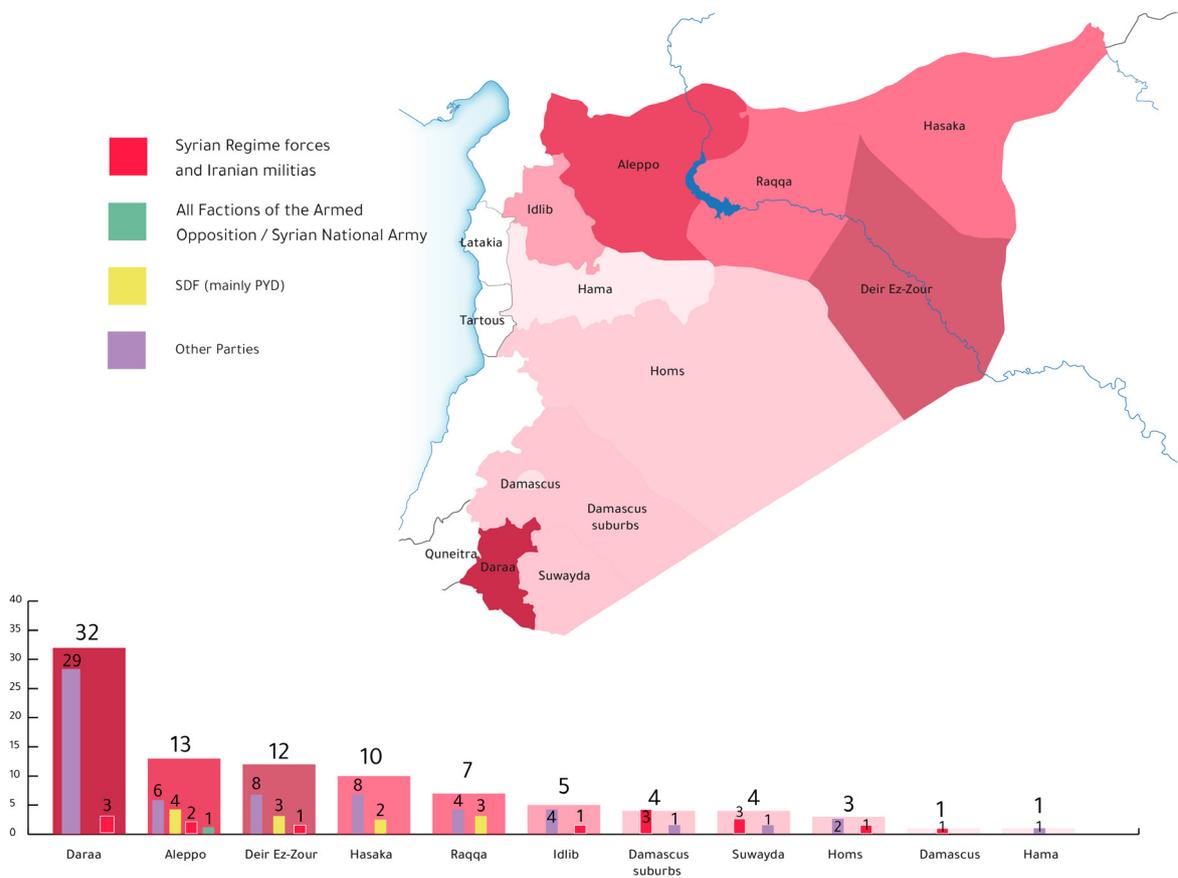
B. Other parties:

We documented the deaths of 64 civilians, including 16 children and 14 women, at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Gunfire whose source we have been unable to identify: 35 civilians, including two children and five women.
- Landmines whose source we have been unable to identify: 16 civilians, including nine children and four women.

- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: Six civilians, including three children and three women.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have been unable to identify: Five civilians, including two children and one woman.
- Shells whose source we have been unable to identify: One woman.
- Turkish forces: One civilian.

The death toll of civilian victims killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces documented in June 2022 was distributed across Syrian governorates as follows:



Daraa governorate saw the highest death toll of victims documented in June, accounting for 35% of the total death toll, with most of the victims in the governorate killed at the hands of other parties, followed by Aleppo governorate, which accounted for 14%, then Deir Ez-Zour governorate, which accounted for approximately 13%.

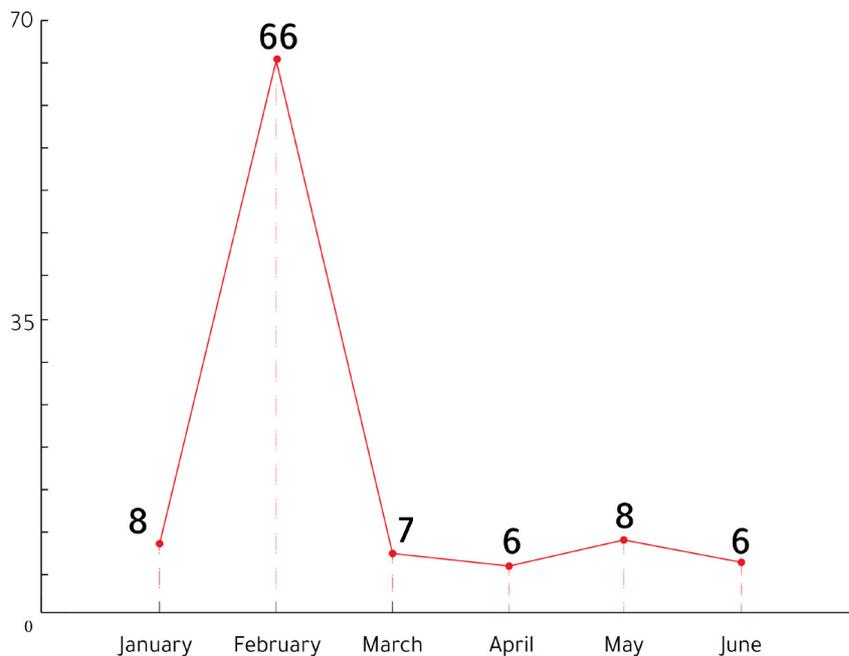
## IV. Death Toll of Victims Who Died Due to Torture, and Victims Amongst Media, Medical and Civil Defense Personnel

### A. Death toll of victims who died due to torture

#### 1. In the first half of 2022:

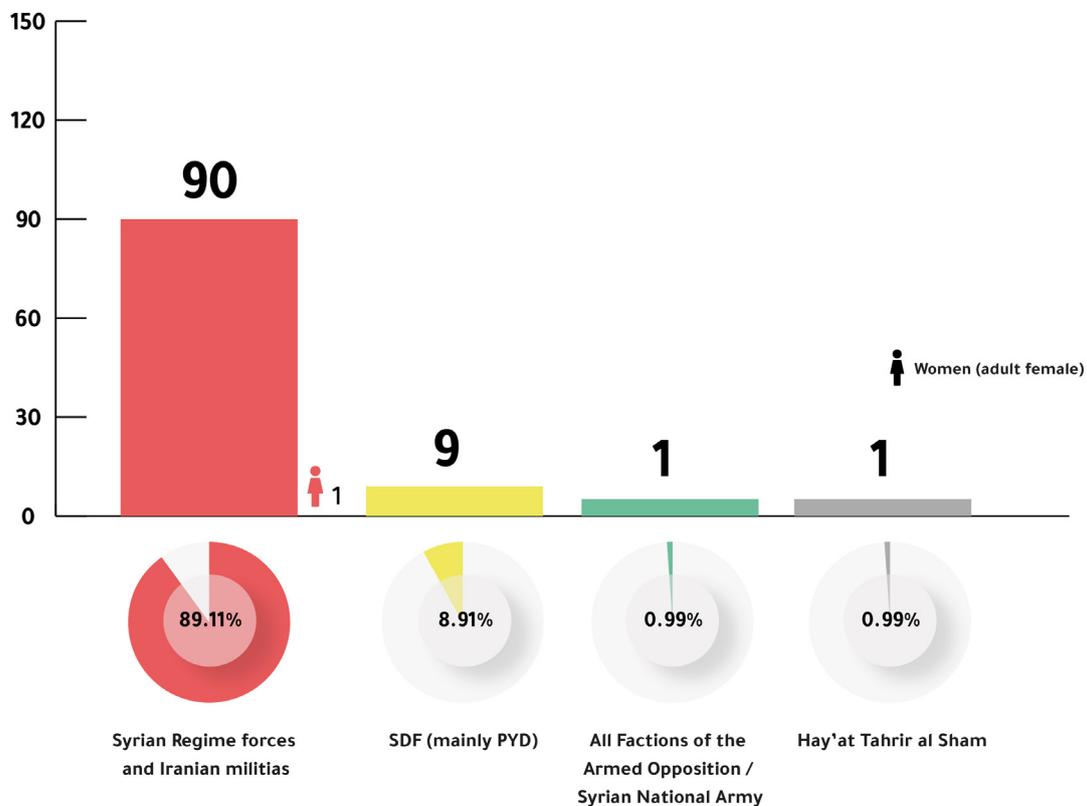
SNHR documented the deaths of 101 individuals due to torture, including one woman, in the first half of 2022 at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The death toll of victims whom SNHR documented their death due to torture at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria since the beginning of 2022 was distributed as follows:



The previous chart shows that the largest death toll among torture victims recorded in this period was documented in February, which accounted for 65% of all torture victims documented killed in the first half of 2022, with the percentage of victims whose deaths by torture we documented as taking place in the Syrian regime's detention centers since the beginning of the year accounting for approximately 89% of the total death toll of torture victims.

The death toll of victims whom SNHR documented their death due to torture in the first half of 2022 was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:

- **Syrian regime forces:** 90, including one woman.
- **Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:** One.
- **All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army:** One.
- **Syrian Democratic Forces:** Nine.

The most notable deaths due to torture documented in the first half of 2022 are:

Muhammad Hussein al Hares al Ammash, from al Baghouz town in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, was arrested by Syrian regime forces in May 2021 while he was passing through one of the regime's checkpoints in Damascus city after returning from Lebanon, and was taken to one of the regime detention centers in Damascus city. Since that date, he has been classified as forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On Saturday, January 1, 2022, Syrian regime forces handed over his body to his family after his death in a regime detention center in Damascus city. SNHR data from numerous sources confirms that he was in good health at the time of his arrest, indicating that he most probably died due to torture and neglect of healthcare.



Hussein Ibrahim al Dgheim, born 1965, an employee at the Military Housing Institution, from Jerjanaz town in the eastern suburbs of Idlib governorate was arrested by Syrian regime forces on Sunday, October 26, 2014, in Idlib city. Since then, he has been considered forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian regime denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him. On Wednesday, February 2, 2022, his family was notified that he had been registered as dead on May 4, 2015, in the civil registry. SNHR believes it's probably that he died due to torture inside a Syrian regime forces' detention center. We confirm that Syrian regime forces did not hand over his body to his family.



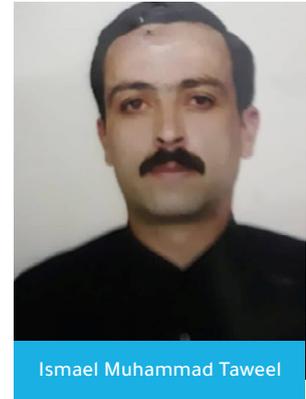
Tareq Sayyed Ahmad, aged 29, a member of the Syrian Democratic Forces, from Khank village, which is administratively a part of Ein al Arab city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate, was arrested by Syrian Democratic Forces personnel in August 2021, upon his return from a security mission assigned to him by the Syrian Democratic Forces in Jarablos area, which is under the control of the Syrian National Army. Almost since then, he has been classified as forcibly disappeared, with the Syrian Democratic Forces denying his detention and preventing anyone, even a lawyer, from visiting him or knowing his fate. On Monday, April 18, 2022, a Syrian Democratic Forces officer released his body to his family, informing them that he had died inside one of the SDF's detention centers. We have information confirming that he was in good health when he was arrested, indicating that he most probably died due to torture and neglect of healthcare in one of SDF detention centers.

## 2. In June 2022:

SNHR documented in June 2022 the deaths of six victims due to torture, all killed at the hands of Syrian regime forces.

The most notable cases are:

Ismael Muhammad Taweel, born in 1975, from Izaz city in Aleppo governorate northern suburbs, was arrested by Syrian regime forces in 2013 in Aleppo city, and has been classified as forcibly disappeared ever since as the regime consistently denied detaining him and refused to allow anyone, even a lawyer, to visit him. On Wednesday, June 8, 2022, his family learned that he had been registered as dead in the civil registry on July 5, 2013. We have received information confirming he was in good health at the time of his arrest, which indicates that he probably died due to torture and lack of medical care. We confirm that Syrian regime forces did not hand over his body to his family.

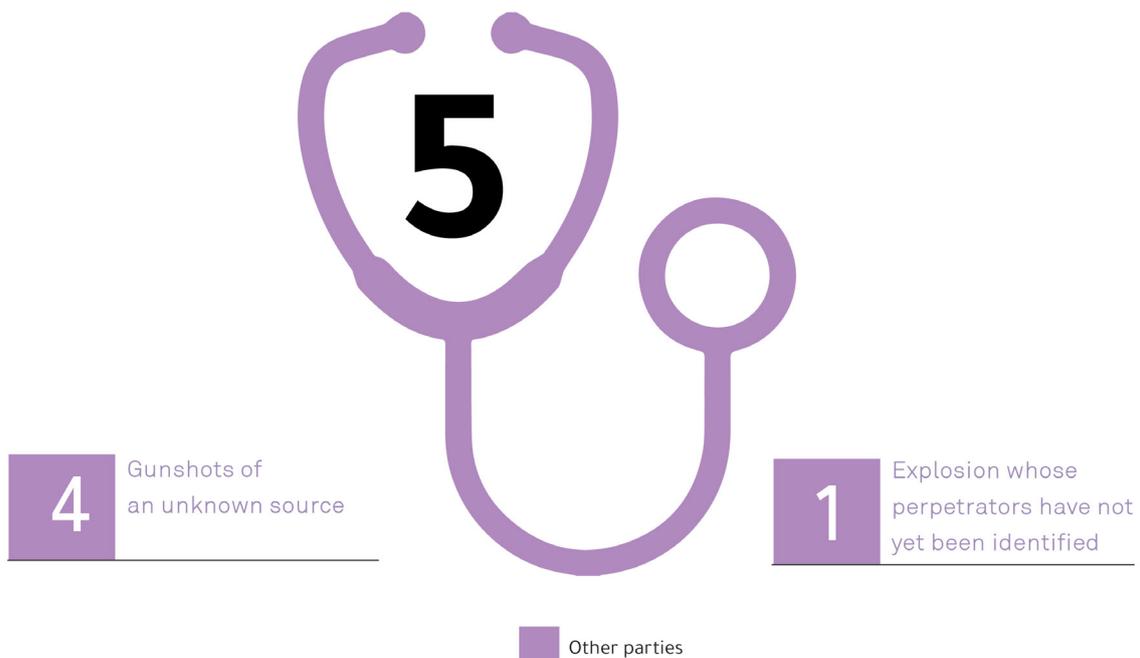


Ismael Muhammad Taweel

## B. Death toll of medical personnel

### 1. In the first half of 2022:

In the first half of 2022, SNHR documented the deaths of five medical personnel, who were killed at the hands of other parties.



Other parties:

We documented the deaths of five medical personnel at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Gunfire whose source we have been unable to identify: Four.
- Bombings whose perpetrators we have been unable to identify: One.

The most notable cases are:

[Abd al Mfaddi Ahmad al Abd](#), a 37-year-old [General Surgeon](#), from al Salehiya town in the northern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, was shot dead on January 11, 2022, by gunmen whom the SNHR has so far been unable to identify near his workplace in al Kindi Hospital in al Tayyana town in the eastern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, which was under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces at the time of the incident.



Abd al Mfaddi Ahmad al Abd

Wasim Mohammad al Hamad from Mahjeh village north of Daraa governorate, who worked as a [nurse](#) at Busra al Sham city's hospital east of Daraa governorate, was shot and killed on February 15, 2022, by gunmen whom SNHR has so far been unable to identify, who opened fire on the victims' [car](#) on Damascus-Daraa highway - al Ghariya al Sharqiya-al Mseifra Road - east of Daraa governorate, which is under the control of Syrian regime forces.



Wasim Mohammad al Hamad

## **2. In June 2022:**

SNHR didn't document any deaths among medical personnel in June 2022.

### **C. Death toll of media workers**

SNHR didn't document any deaths among media workers in the first half of 2022.

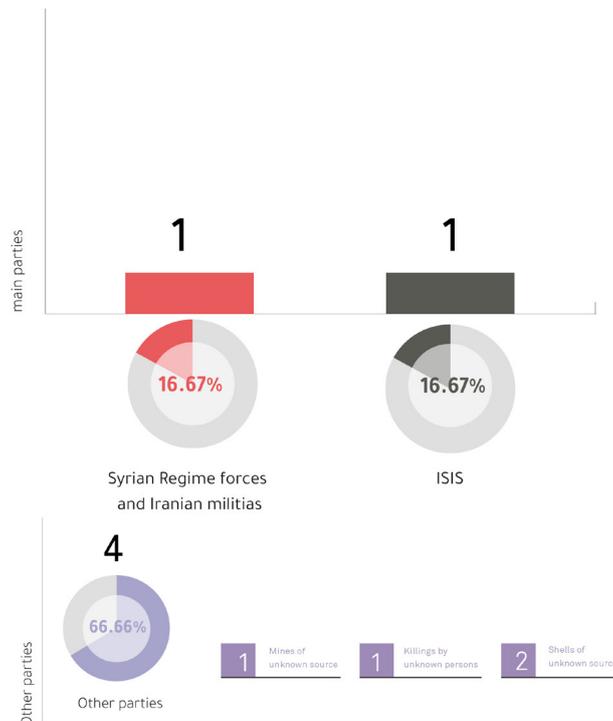
### **D. Death toll of Civil Defense personnel**

SNHR didn't document any deaths among Civil Defense personnel in the first half of 2022.

## V. Record of Most Notable Massacres

### 1. In the first half of 2022:

SNHR documented at least six massacres in the first half of 2022, distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



#### A. The main parties:

- **Syrian regime forces:** One.
- **ISIS:** One.

#### B. Other parties:

We documented four massacres at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- Shells whose source we have been unable to identify: Two.
- Killings by parties we have been unable to identify: One.
- Landmines whose source we have been unable to identify: One.

**The most notable case is:**

On Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at around 19:00, gunmen believed to be [affiliated](#) with ISIS attacked a house owned by Nouri al Hamish, the head of the Public Relations Office at Deir Ez-Zour's Civilian Council, run by the Syrian Democratic Forces in Fnaijin village in the Badyia of Abu Khashab, the northern suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate, with the gunmen shooting seven of the civilians in the house dead and wounding five others. Fnaijin village was under the control of Syrian Democratic Forces at the time of the incident.

**B. In June 2022:**

SNHR documented at least one massacre in June 2022, perpetrated by other parties, resulting in the deaths of 10 civilians, including four children and four women.

On Saturday, June 11, 2022, a landmine planted by unknown parties blew up near a truck transporting agricultural workers near Deir al Adas village in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate, resulting in the deaths of 10 civilians, including four children and four women, and injuring 32 other people. Deir al Adas village was under the control of Syrian regime forces at the time of the incident.

## VI. The Most Notable Work Carried Out by SNHR on the Extrajudicial Killing Issue

Since 2011, the SNHR has created complex electronic programs to archive and categorize the victims' data, which the team collects and verifies, enabling us to catalogue the victims according to their gender, age, the date and place of death, method of killing used, type of weapon used, and perpetrator party, and to make comparisons between these parties. We can also distribute the death toll according to the governorate in which the incident of death occurred, and according to the governorate from which the victim originated, in order to show the extent of the loss suffered by the people of that governorate, and enables us to accurately ascertain the highest rates of violence documented in the case of each violation. SNHR's Victim Documentation Department team constantly updates its comprehensive database, with all the data added to the SNHR's database being retained securely, and several backup copies being stored in different locations.

Since 2011, we have also been exceptionally concerned about incidents involving the killing of children and women; there is hardly a statistic recorded on our database that does not include either, due to the vulnerability of these groups in the community, and because they give an indication of the rate of targeting of civilians. We later added other civilian groups which have played a key role in the popular uprising and later in the armed conflict, such as media, medical, relief and Civil Defense personnel.

For nearly 11 years, we have issued [daily death tolls](#) of victims, as well as [daily news reports](#) on killing incidents. We also issue a [monthly report](#) detailing the death toll of victims, whose deaths were documented in Syria during the previous month, amongst civilians, as well as of those who died [due to torture](#), in addition to issuing a biannual report and annual report, as well as dozens of other special reports [documenting the total death toll](#) or the death toll at the hands of one of the parties to the conflict in particular, in addition to a [monthly report](#) and special and periodic reports documenting the [massacres](#) committed on Syrian soil.

We have also turned the victims' database into a map and interactive charts accessible on our website, which categorize the victims by governorate, gender, age group, the party responsible for their deaths, and other criteria. There are also charts detailing the death toll of victims killed at the hands of all parties to the conflict, as well as others giving information on specific groups, such as specifically detailing the death toll among women and children victims, with all of these being updated regularly.

SNHR also periodically sends a special form to the United Nations [Special Rapporteur](#) on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as well as to the Special Rapporteur on torture, submitting cases of killings on which we were able to document all of the available data, having obtained the consent of each victim's family members before submitting them.

It should be noted that the United Nations has relied on the Syrian Network for Human Rights for all the statistics it has used in its analysis of victims in the conflict, given SNHR's prominent role as one of the most credible sources. The SNHR also has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Humanitarian Outcomes on contributing to its Aid Worker Security Database (AWSDB) project. The MoU stipulates the establishment of a joint coordination and cooperation mechanism aimed at documenting and archiving violations and violence affecting aid workers. SNHR has also partnered with numerous United Nations bodies, in addition to governments of states, to provide them with statistics from our databases, in order to serve the path of justice, and ultimately to ensure the accountability and prosecution of criminals. SNHR is also used as a trustworthy source by a large number of Arab and international news agencies and many international human rights organizations.

## VII. Conclusions and Recommendations

### Conclusions:

- The evidence we collected regarding incidents involving deaths indicates that the attacks documented in this report were deliberately directed against civilians and civilian objects. Syrian-Russian alliance forces have committed various crimes of extrajudicial killings, including fatal torture. Their attacks and indiscriminate bombardment have resulted in the destruction of facilities and buildings. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the war crime of attacking civilians has been committed in many cases.
- A large proportion of Syrians were killed as a result of landmines, and none of the perpetrator forces in the Syrian conflict have revealed maps of the locations where landmines were planted. This indicates total indifference to the lives of civilians, and children in particular.
- The Syrian regime has not only violated international humanitarian law and customary law, but has also breached a number of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2139 and resolution 2042 on the release of detainees, as well as resolution 2254, all without any accountability.
- We documented cases of extrajudicial killings committed by various controlling forces against the populations under their control, which constitute serious violation of international human rights law.
- ISIS has violated international humanitarian law, causing the deaths of civilians.

### Recommendations:

#### UN Security Council

- The Security Council should take additional steps following the adoption of Resolution 2254, which clearly demands that all parties should, "...Immediately cease any attacks against civilians and civilian objects as such, including attacks against medical facilities and personnel, and any indiscriminate use of weapons, including through shelling and aerial bombardment."
- The Syrian issue should be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those involved in perpetrating crimes against humanity and war crimes should be held accountable.
- Members of the Security Council must stop using their veto to protect the Syrian regime, which has committed hundreds of thousands of violations over the past ten years, many of which constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- Establish security and peace in Syria and implement the 'Responsibility to Protect' norm (R2P) in order to preserve Syrians' lives, heritage, and cultural artifacts from being destroyed, looted, and ruined.
- Request all relevant United Nations agencies to make greater efforts to provide humanitarian and food aid and medical assistance in areas where the fighting has ceased, and in internally displaced persons' camps, and follow-up with those states that have pledged the necessary contributions.

- Seriously work to achieve a political transition under the Geneva Communiqué and Security Council Resolution No. 2254, to ensure the stability and territorial integrity of Syria, and the dignified and safe return of refugees and IDPs.
- Allocate a significant amount of money for clearing mines left over by the Syrian conflict from the United Nations Mine Action Service, particularly in areas prepared to carry out this task with transparency and integrity.

### **International Community**

- In light of the split within the Security Council and its utter incapability, action should be taken at the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people and increase support for relief efforts. Additionally, the principle of universal jurisdiction should be applied in local courts regarding these crimes in order to conduct fair trials for all those who were involved.
- SNHR has repeatedly called for the implementation of the 'Responsibility to Protect' doctrine (R2P) in dozens of studies and reports and as a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICR2P) after all political channels through the Arab League's plan and then Mr. Kofi Annan's plan were exhausted, with the Cessation of Hostilities statements and Astana talks that followed proved equally fruitless. Therefore, steps should be taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations and the norm of the "Responsibility to Protect" doctrine, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, should be implemented. The UN Security Council is still hindering the protection of civilians in Syria.
- Refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court, or quickly establish a tribunal dedicated to trying crimes against humanity and war crimes to end the cycle of impunity that has now spanned a decade in Syria.
- Work on fulfilling justice and achieving accountability in Syria through the United Nations General Assembly and the Human Rights Council and to activate the principle of universal jurisdiction.
- Work to launch projects to create maps revealing the locations of landmines and cluster munitions in all Syrian governorates. This would facilitate the process of clearing them and educating the population about their locations.
- Support the political transition process and impose pressure to compel the parties to implement the political transition within a time period of no more than six months so that most of the violations end and millions of displaced people can safely and settled return to their homes.
- Stop any forcible return of Syrian refugees, since the situation in Syria continues to be unsafe, and put pressure to achieve a political transition that would ensure the automatic return of millions of refugees.

### **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**

- The OHCHR should submit a report to the Human Rights Council and other organs of the United Nations on the violations mentioned in this report and previous reports and should shed more light on the issue of the continuing killing in Syria.

### **Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI)**

- Launch extensive investigations into the cases included in this report and previous reports. SNHR is willing to cooperate and provide further evidence and data.
- Focus on the issue of landmines and cluster munitions within the next report.
- Work on identifying the responsibility of individuals within the Syrian regime who are involved in crimes against humanity and war crimes, publish their names to expose them to international public opinion and end all dealings with them at every political and economic level.

### **International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)**

- Collect further evidence about the crimes documented in this report, and provide an exchange of experiences with Syrian organizations working in the field of documentation, data collection and analysis.

### **The United Nations Special Envoy to Syria**

- Condemn the perpetrators of these crimes, the massacres, and those who were primarily responsible for dooming the de-escalation agreements.
- Re-sequence the peace process so that it can resume its natural course despite Russia's attempts to divert and distort it, empowering the Constitutional Committee prior to the transitional governing body.
- Call for rapid implementation of democratic political change that restores victims' rights and embodies the principles of transitional justice.
- There is no sense in pursuing any political process in light of the continued bombing of hospitals and UN aid, and the pursuit of a zero-security-military solution by the Syrian regime and its allies, and the UN Envoy must acknowledge this.
- Clearly assign responsibility to the party responsible for the death of the political process, and disclose to the Syrian people the timing of the end of the political transition process.

### **The Syrian regime**

- Stop indiscriminate shelling and targeting of residential areas, hospitals, schools and markets.
- End the acts of torture that have caused the deaths of thousands of Syrian citizens in detention centers.
- Ensure compliance with UN Security Council resolutions and customary humanitarian law.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the regime planted landmines, especially in civilian areas or near residential communities.

### **The Russian regime**

- Completely cease the bombing of hospitals, protected objects, and civilian areas, and respect customary international law.
- As a guarantor party in the Astana talks, the Russian regime must stop thwarting de-escalation agreements, and apply pressure on the Syrian regime in order to end all indiscriminate attacks and allow the unconditional passage of humanitarian aid to besieged areas.
- Provide detailed maps of sites where Russian forces have launched cluster munition attacks, issue these to the United Nations and inform the Syrian public about them, thus facilitating the disposal of unexploded ordnance.

### **The Coalition (US-led coalition and Syrian Democratic Forces)**

- The states supporting the SDF should cease all forms of support until the SDF commits itself to complying with the rules of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. This is primarily the responsibility of the supporting states.
- The SDF should form a special committee to investigate incidents of violations committed by SDF forces, disclose the details of their findings and apologize for them, hold those responsible accountable, and compensate the victims and affected.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the SDF planted landmines, especially civilian sites or near residential communities.

### **All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army**

- Ensure the protection of civilians in all areas under their control. These forces should also take care to distinguish between civilians and military targets and cease any indiscriminate attacks.
- Launch investigations into the human rights violations that took place, hold those responsible accountable and make the findings of these investigations public for the Syrian people.
- Provide detailed maps of the locations where the Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army planted landmines, especially civilian sites or near residential communities.

### **Humanitarian organizations**

- Develop urgent operational plans to secure decent shelter for internally displaced persons, primarily widows and orphans.
- Exert efforts in landmine clearance operations in parallel with relief operations whenever the opportunity arises.

### **Acknowledgment**

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