

The Most Notable Human Rights Violations in Syria in June and the First Half of 2022

**At Least 47 Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities
Documented, Including Six on Medical Facilities**

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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 analyzes in Syria.

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I. Introduction and Methodology

Syria has seen an unprecedented number of violations since the start of the popular uprising for democracy in March 2011. Extrajudicial killings, arrests, torture, and enforced disappearances are the violations most frequently perpetrated against Syrian citizens. While the Syrian regime and its affiliated militias were the sole perpetrators of these violations for the first seven months or so of the uprising, other parties subsequently joined in, also violating the rights of Syrian citizens. The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) has continued to document every incident that its team members are able to verify, with these violations escalating very dramatically in 2012 and 2013, prompting us to expand our publication of periodic monthly reports recording and highlighting the continued suffering of the Syrian people, which subsequently grew to eight reports on different issues issued at the beginning of each month. In the course of our work, SNHR has compiled a massive database cataloguing hundreds of thousands of incidents, each of which involves a pattern of violations that we have been able to document.

By the end of 2018, with a reduction in the level of violence compared to previous years, we changed our previous strategy and now compile our reports into a single monthly report featuring the most prominent violations in Syria which we have been able to document in the preceding month.

This month's report focuses on the human rights situation in Syria, which SNHR documented in May 2022, and catalogues the death toll of civilian victims whom we documented killed by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria during this period, as well as the record of cases of arrests and enforced disappearance. The report also highlights attacks on civilian objects, which SNHR's team was able to document during this period. To find out more about our working [methodology](#) in documenting and archiving data, please visit the following link that explains this in detail.

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 Events in June

In regard to bombardment and military operations:

In June, SNHR documented a continuation of Syrian regime forces' ground attacks and artillery shelling on northwest Syria. This shelling was concentrated particularly on the villages and towns in the Jabal al Zaweya area close to the line of contact with Armed Opposition factions in the southern suburbs of Idlib. Elsewhere, regime artillery shelling also targeted the Sahl al Ghab area in the western suburbs of Hama and the eastern suburbs of Aleppo.

June saw a reduction in the frequency of Russian overflights and air attacks on northwest Syria compared to the previous month. We also documented overflights by Russian helicopters over Ein al Arab (Kobani) city in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo, which is under the control of the Syrian Democratic Forces.

On June 7, the Russian Army's Zvezda TV [reported](#) that the Russian Air Force at Hmeimim Airbase in Latakia conducted joint drills with pilots from the Syrian regime's air force. The report from the Russian TV channel added that the drills included joint sorties near the Golan Heights, as well as launching fake raids on potential targets.

In the areas of the northwestern and eastern suburbs of Aleppo and the northern suburbs of Raqqah, we documented continuing ground attacks by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) throughout June. [One such attack, on the market of Ein Eisa city, north of Raqqah governorate, on June 1](#), resulted in the deaths of two brothers and injured 10 other civilians. Syrian National Army forces also used artillery to bomb the Syrian Democratic Forces' positions in al Shahba area in the northern suburbs of Aleppo, and the areas of the northern suburbs of Manbej and the suburbs of Ein al Arab, close to the contact lines. One of these attacks, in which a guided missile was used, on June 29, resulted in [the deaths of two children](#) from one family in Arab Hasan village in the suburbs of Manbej city, east of Aleppo.

On June 18, we monitored the outbreak of clashes between members of the Syrian National Army's Third Corps and members of the 32nd Division of the Ahrar al Sham Movement, which is affiliated with the same Third Corps, in the cities and villages of the northern and eastern suburbs of Aleppo, in connection with the 32nd Division's defection from the Third Corps. The two parties used machine guns during these clashes, in addition to artillery shelling with mortar shells. The fighting between the two parties was concentrated in al Bab area in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo within the villages of al Wash, Dwair al Hawa, Qa'er Kalbin, Ashdoud, Bar'an, Barouza, Abla, and Uwan, as well as extending to the cities of Afrin and Jarablos, all of which are civilian areas. The clashes, which lasted for two days, reached areas near the camps in the vicinity of al Bab city in eastern Aleppo, and resulted in casualties among the displaced people living in those camps, in addition to causing panic and fear among the residents of those camps.

In terms of bombings, in June, we documented the explosion of improvised explosive devices in the governorates of Hama, Aleppo, and Hasaka. The explosion of an improvised explosive device planted in a car [in al Bab city in the east of Aleppo on June 15 resulted in the death of a humanitarian worker](#).



The location of the explosion of an improvised explosive device planted by an unknown party
in al Bab city, Aleppo, that led to the death of a humanitarian worker - June 15, 2022

June also saw an increase in civilian deaths due to explosions caused by landmines [in various governorates and regions of Syria, with these incidents being concentrated especially in the governorates of Aleppo, Hama, and Daraa](#). A landmine explosion in Daraa governorate on June 11 resulted in a massacre of at least 10 civilians, including four children and four women, and injured 32 other civilians. Commenting on the incident, the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor issued a [press release](#) on June 12 saying, “The incident is a tragic reminder of the deadly dangers posed by landmines in Syria, especially in light of the absence of a national or international program to clear mines in the country.”

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Syria issued a [statement](#) on June 14 about the incident, in which it said that the civilian population in Syria lives in constant fear of landmines and unexploded ordnance; from 2019 to April 2022, 12,350 explosive ordnance (EO) incidents, either caused by landmines or by other unexploded ordnances (UXO) took place in Syria, which is approximately five EO incidents per day. The statement added that one in two Syrians are estimated to be living in contaminated areas. On the same day, [the Action on Armed Violence Organization \(AOAV\)](#)¹ issued a statement on the incident, in which it said that Syria is by far the worst-affected country for recorded civilian casualties of mine and UXO explosions. The statement added that 1,860 civilian casualties, including 753 children and at least 121 women, were reported in Syria since 2010.

¹ A London-based non-profit organization that conducts research on the impact of armed violence globally. It seeks to reduce the impact of armed violence through monitoring and research of the causes and consequences of weapon-based violence, with a specific focus on the impact of explosive weapons with wide area effects in populated areas.

We note that the SNHR documented the deaths of 16 civilians, including nine children and four women, resulting from landmine explosions in June, bringing the total death toll caused by these munitions since the beginning of 2022 to 76 civilians, including 39 children and nine women.

June also saw killing of civilians in various governorates, mostly in Daraa and Deir Ez-Zour governorates, by [gunmen whom SNHR has been unable to identify](#). One of the most prominent of these killings in June was [the killing of an instructor at the Educational Complex](#) in Busra al Sham east of Daraa governorate, on June 22. We also recorded the continuation of killings in al Hawl Camp,² resulting in the deaths of six civilians, including five women, during June, most notably the discovery of [two women's bodies in the camp](#), both bearing gunshot wounds, on June 17.

On June 6, the Syrian regime's '[Syrian Arab News Agency](#)' (SANA) reported that Israeli forces fired missiles at locations south of Damascus city, causing material damage. According to SANA, [the same forces](#) also fired missiles at locations south of Damascus city on June 10. SANA added that the bombing led to "injuring a civilian and causing material damage." Satellite images published [by ImageSat Int'l](#) on June 10 revealed damage to the military and civilian runways inside Damascus International Airport, which the website attributed to an attack that targeted the airport the same morning. SANA also reported an announcement by the Syrian regime's Ministry of Transport on the same day declaring the suspension of all flights to and from Damascus International Airport, stating that ["the work of some technical equipment at the airport has stopped and is out of service."](#)

On June 12, [Israeli Channel 12](#) said that the targeting of Damascus International Airport was aimed at striking Iranian interests in Syria and preventing the continued transfer of weapons from Iran to Syria by smuggling them via civilian planes.

In regard to arrests and enforced disappearances:

Syrian regime forces continued in June to pursue and arrest individuals who had concluded settlements of their security status with the Syrian regime in areas that had previously concluded settlement agreements with the regime; these arrests have been concentrated in Damascus Suburbs, Daraa, and Raqqa governorates, with most occurring during campaigns of mass raids and arrests and at checkpoints. We documented random arrests of Syrian citizens, including a woman, in Damascus Suburbs governorate, most of which occurred during campaigns of mass raids and arrests; many of these detainees' families told us that the aim of the arrests was extortion and obtaining ransom money in exchange for their loved ones' release. We also documented arrests targeting a number of civilians in connection with their criticism of the difficult living conditions in regime-held areas; they were charged with a vague, general accusation, namely "spreading despair or weakness among members of society, "weakening the psyche of the nation", and a series of other charges related to the regime's cybercrime law.

² A camp located east of Hasaka city, near the Iraqi-Syrian border, which houses nearly 60,000 people.

We also documented arrests targeting a number of returning civilians, all refugees and IDPs, including a woman, after they returned to their original areas, now back under the control of Syrian regime forces in Damascus city. A number of them returned based on the issuance of Amnesty Decree No. 7 of 2022, believing that they were included among those exempted from prosecution by the decree.

Meanwhile, Syrian Democratic Forces continued enforcing the group's policies of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance in June, with the number detained and forcibly disappeared increasing this month as SDF personnel continued carrying out campaigns of mass raids and detentions, targeting civilians, including IDPs from Homs governorate, on the pretext of fighting ISIS cells, with some of these campaigns backed by US-led coalition helicopters. We also documented detentions targeting civilians, including a woman. These arrests were concentrated in Raqqqa and Hasaka cities. We also recorded the detention of a number of civilians over their criticism of the living and service conditions in Raqqqa city. We also recorded the detention of a civilian due to his appearance in a video report broadcast on Syria TV, in which he talked about Syrian Democratic Forces' destruction of houses al Mouh neighborhood in Abo Hammam city in the suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour governorate.

We also recorded Syrian Democratic Forces kidnapping children with the aim of taking them to its training and recruitment camps and forcibly conscripting them, preventing their families from communicating with them, and failing to disclose their fate.

June also saw Hay'at Tahrir al Sham detaining civilians, including media activists and politicians, with these arrests concentrated in Idlib governorate; most of these arrests occurred due to the detainees expressing opinions critical of the HTS's management of areas under its control. These detentions were carried out arbitrarily in the form of raids in which HTS members stormed their victims' homes, often breaking down the doors, or by abducting their victims while they were traveling or passing through temporary checkpoints. We also recorded the detention of a doctor in al Dana city, north of Idlib governorate, who was arrested without any clear charges being presented against him.

Meanwhile, all Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army also continued carrying out arbitrary detentions and kidnappings in June, most of which were carried out on a mass scale, targeting individuals coming from areas controlled by the Syrian regime. In addition, we documented detentions carried out under an ethnic pretext, with these incidents being concentrated in areas under all Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army's control in Aleppo governorate. Most of these arrests occurred without judicial authorization and without the participation of the police force, which is the legitimate administrative authority responsible for arrests and detentions through the judiciary, with these arrests also carried out without presenting any clear charges against those being detained. In addition to these cases, we also documented raids and detentions carried out by Syrian National Army personnel, targeting civilians, including women, on charges of collaborating with Syrian Democratic Forces. These incidents were concentrated in some villages near Afrin city in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate.

Regarding living conditions:

Living and economic conditions in all regions of Syria continue to deteriorate drastically and constantly at all levels, especially with the onset of soaring summer temperatures, as the electricity crisis worsened in **the areas under the control of Syrian regime forces**, with the hours of rationing increased in most areas; in some of these areas, this escalation reached [seven hours of rationing for every hour of delivery, with the hours of delivery in other areas not exceeding periods of between](#) 15 minutes to every 6 hours of rationing. [The crisis of increasing fuel prices, in tandem with woefully inadequate quantities of fuel](#) allocated by the Syrian regime government for public vehicles, has further exacerbated a critical reduction in the amount of available public transportation vehicles operating in most areas under Syrian regime control. This adds to the existing crises in regime-controlled areas, already suffering from a shortage of most other essential public services.

In northwestern Syria, civilians continued to suffer from the high prices of consumer goods, food and fuel in light of the almost total lack of purchasing power of those living in the region, due to the spread of unemployment, high poverty rates, and low labor wages.

On the night of June 3, the cities and towns of Afrin, Marea, Suran, al Bab and Jandeiras in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate witnessed [popular protests against the policies of the Syrian-Turkish Energy Company \(STE\)](#), which supplies the region with electric power, with protesters demanding that the firm reduce the cost of electricity bills and increase the number of hours of electricity currently provided under a rationing system. Protesters in some areas were confronted with gunfire by the Turkish Guard forces, resulting in civilian casualties and the death of a protester, a member of the Ahrar al Sharqiya faction. The protests were accompanied by acts of vandalism at the company's branch offices and the outbreak of fires in a number of these.

As for northeastern Syria, the people of the region are still suffering from several living and economic crises, in conjunction with increasing unemployment rates and rising prices of some foodstuffs and fuel. The main reason for these price rises, in Deir Ez-Zour governorate in particular, is an increased reliance on goods smuggled via river crossings from areas controlled by Syrian regime forces. Residents of this area also suffer constantly from water outages due to the suspension of water filtration and pumping stations, with this issue exacerbated by the advent of summer, which has seen water supplies cut to the villages of Mazra'et Ya'rob, Mazra'et al Ansar, and Mazra'et al Adnaniya in the southern suburbs of Raqqa since mid-June due to technical malfunctions in local water pumping stations.

In regard to asylum, displacement and forced displacement:

The massive suffering of IDPs in northwest Syria has continued, especially in light of the deteriorating economic conditions and the increase of the level of needs, which has reaching record levels following the reduction in external support required to cover those needs. [The Associated Press](#) said on June 23 that unless the UN Security Council extends its approval of cross-border aid deliveries to northwest Syria in July, food supplies will be depleted by September in the region which is home to some 4 million people. The Associated Press quoted David Miliband, head of the International Rescue Committee, during an on-line briefing, as saying, "This is a moment when it's absolutely vital that the people of Syria are not forced to pay the price of geopolitical divisions."

In June, we also recorded [the outbreak of fires in a number of IDP camps](#) in the northern suburbs of Idlib, due to the misuse of cooking equipment.

On June 10, [the Halo Trust](#) (Hazardous Area Life-support Organization)³ said that the explosion of an ammunition depot in Babsqa village, north of Idlib, on June 1, had impacted a large number of IDP camps in the nearby area, and resulted in the displacement of about 3,500 people. The organization indicated that the spread of explosive ordnance remnants poses a great danger in northwestern Syria and puts the lives of those living in these area at risk of injury or death, which requires a critical and immediate survey of these remnants, which must be cleared.

On June 19, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a [report](#) on the situation in northwest Syria, that during May the area was subjected to artillery shelling on most days of the month, and also saw an increase in airstrikes at the end of the month. The report recorded 9,852 displacement cases in May, primarily due to the deteriorating economic situation. The report indicated that this is the highest number of displacement cases in the region since December 2021.

Regarding northeastern Syria, we received confirmed information about an outbreak of meningitis and leishmaniasis among the residents of random camps in the eastern and northern suburbs of Raqqa, due to complete neglect by the Raqqa Civil Council' Health Committee, which is controlled by the Syrian Democratic Forces, with dozens of infections recorded in each of the camps of Hawija al Sawafi, al Khay-ala, Ratlah, al Rasheed, and Tal al Samen in the suburbs of Raqqa, which contain hundreds of displaced families from the areas controlled by Syrian regime forces in the governorates of Deir Ez-Zour, Homs, Hama, and Aleppo.

In June, we also documented [the death of two children](#) due to neglect of health care, poor living conditions, and poor medical capabilities in the camps in northeastern Syria.

³ Halo Trust is a non-political registered British charity and American non-profit organization which removes debris left behind by war, in particular land mines.

[Regarding al Hawl camp](#) for displaced Syrians and Iraqi refugees east of Hasaka, north-eastern Syria, 150 Iraqi families (around 620 people) left the camp to Iraq on 1 June.

[Kurdistan 24 News Agency](#) reported on June 2, that the Self-Management Authority of Northeast Syria handed over two Austrian children from ISIS families to an Austrian delegation headed by Doris Vida Stragner, representative of the Austrian Ministry of European and International Affairs. In the same context, [the Radio and Television Broadcasting Company of the French Community of Belgium \(RTBF\)](#) reported on June 21 that the Belgian authorities had repatriated 6 Belgian women and 16 children under the age of 12 of Belgian nationality from al Rouj camp in northeastern Syria.

On June 29, Save the Children [revealed](#) that 21 people had been killed in the al Hawl camp in northeastern Syria since April, an increase of 250% on the number killed in the first three months of 2022, including 17 women, with 8 of these women murdered in June alone. The organization added that this highlighted once again that the camp is unsafe for women and children.

Regarding refugees, [the Lebanese Center for Human Rights \(CLDH\)](#) reported in a statement issued on June 8 that personnel from the Dekwaneh municipality, in the Mount Lebanon governorate, had carried out raids and arbitrary arrests of Syrians and their families, some of whom are registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), during which the refugees were forced to sign a pledge that they would return to Syria. The statement added that the pledges the refugees were forced to sign were considered void, in addition to the fact that the Syrian refugees in Lebanon are under protection, and that forcing them to return involuntarily constitutes “a violation of law (65) on Torture and Article 3 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which Lebanon has ratified.”

In another context, the Syrian regime and its Russian ally continue their campaign to promote the return of refugees and to exploit this idea in calling for the start of the reconstruction process. On June 14, [SANA](#) reported that “the work of the fourth joint Syrian-Russian meeting to follow up on the international conference on the return of Syrian refugees and displaced persons” was launched in Damascus.

Regarding the deportation of refugees from Britain:

On June 10, [Reuters reported](#) that the British High Court had overcome attempts by activists to obtain a court order preventing the deportation of Syrian and Iraqi asylum seekers to Rwanda, as part of the British government's policy to deport groups of asylum seekers to Rwanda. On April 14, 2022, [the United Kingdom government](#) issued a statement announcing a new plan to "tackle illegal migration", in which it said that the British Home Secretary had signed a partnership agreement with the Rwandan Minister for Foreign Affairs to deport asylum seekers from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan who had arrived illegally in the United Kingdom, in exchange for economic investments made by the United Kingdom in Rwanda. On June 15, [CNN reported](#), quoting the UK's PA Media news agency, that the flight that was supposed to carry the people who were to be deported was canceled, following an intervention by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), which decided to cancel the deportation. We addressed this issue in [our report](#), which we issued on World Refugee Day (June 20), entitled "Ongoing Atrocious Violations in Syria Are the Main Reason for Generating More Refugees," which referred to the harsh conditions in some countries of asylum, especially neighboring countries, which are forcing some Syrian refugees to return to the Syrian regime's insecure and unsafe areas. SNHR's report also stressed that the attempts to deport refugees by a number of European countries constitute a violation of international law.

On the political and human rights level:

On June 1, [the United Nations Development Program](#) revealed in a press release that food insecurity in Syria has reached historic highs with an estimated 60% of the population now classified as food insecure, while humanitarian needs have risen to unprecedented levels, in light of the sharp deterioration in the economy.

On June 6, [the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\) and the United Nations World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) warned in a joint statement that a group of countries, including Syria, remained a "very serious concern" with the deterioration of critical conditions in light of the current situation and its presence in the list of countries classified as hot spots in relation to the hunger crisis.

On June 8, Barbara Leaf Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State, said in [a statement](#) during a US Senate Foreign Relations hearing to discuss US foreign policy toward Syria, "We will continue to use all our tools, including the Caesar Act, to press the Assad regime." She added that an enduring peace and stability in Syria will not be possible without justice for the Syrian people, noting that the United States of America will not support efforts to normalize or rehabilitate the Syrian regime, will not lift sanctions on the regime, or change their position opposing reconstruction in Syria until there is authentic, enduring progress towards a political solution.

On June 9, the World Bank issued a report entitled [“Lost Generation of Syrians.”](#) The report said that the factors of conflict, displacement, and the collapse of economic activities contributed to the deterioration of the standard of living of families in Syria, and added that the depreciation of the currency in Syria has led to a doubling of prices locally, which in turn led to increasing the rate of inflation, with the inflation rate in 2020 reaching 114 percent. The report indicated that food prices increased, according to the minimum price index of the World Food Program, by 97 percent during 2021, in addition to an increase of 236% in 2020.

On June 12, [the OCHA](#) published a tweet on its official Twitter account in which it noted that the fifth United Nations cross-line humanitarian aid convoy had entered from Aleppo to northwest Syria, in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2585.



On June 15-16, the 18th round of the Astana talks was held in the Kazakh capital, Nur-Sultan, with the participation of representatives of the guarantor states (Türkiye, Russia, and Iran), a representative of Geir Pedersen, the United Nations Special Envoy to Syria, a delegation from the Syrian regime, and a representative delegation from the Syrian opposition, in addition to delegations from the countries of Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan and representatives of international organizations. On its official website, the Kazakh Ministry of Foreign Affairs published a joint [final statement](#) by each of the representatives of the guarantor states (Türkiye, Russia, and Iran), which did not contain any decisions or developments. The statement said that the 19th round of the Astana talks on Syria will also be held in Nur-Sultan in the second half of 2022.

On June 16, the UNHCR released its latest annual report "[Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2021](#)." The report said that by the end of 2021, 69% of the total refugees around the world came from five countries, with Syria at the top of the list of these countries from which most refugees come, accounting for 6.8 million refugees. The report added that the continuation of the conflict in Syria led to the registration of hundreds of thousands of new refugee cases, as the situation led to the displacement of 237,600 people from Syria in 2021. Regarding internal displacement, the report said that Syria still contains the largest number of internally displaced people worldwide, and that 1 out of every 3 Syrians who remained inside the country had been internally displaced by the end of 2021.

The Syrian regime and its Russian ally have continued to work to disrupt any possible political process aimed at a possible political solution in Syria. On June 16, [the Russian Sputnik news agency](#) quoted Alexander Lavrentiev, the Russian Special Presidential Envoy on Syria, who stated that Russia had proposed moving the meeting headquarters of the Syrian Constitutional Committee from Geneva to Muscat or Abu Dhabi, adding that "Algeria is also possible as a platform." The agency also quoted a previous statement by Ayman Sousan, head of the Syrian regime's delegation to the Astana 18 conference, in which he said that Geneva "is not a suitable place for the meetings of the Syrian Constitutional Committee."

On June 20, Najib Mikati, head of the Lebanese caretaker government, [asserted](#) that the international community should cooperate with Lebanon to return the Syrian refugees to their country, claiming that "otherwise, Lebanon will have a situation that is not desirable for Western countries, which is to work to remove the Syrians from Lebanon by legal means, through the firm application of Lebanese laws," according to the official website of the Lebanese Republic.

On June 21, the UNHCR [said](#) that more than 2 million refugees are in need of resettlement in 2023, and added, "Syrian refugees (around 777,800) represent the population with the highest global resettlement needs, for the seventh year running, given that the Syria crisis remains the world's largest refugee situation."

On June 21, the German newspaper Der Spiegel published a [press investigation](#) about the involvement of the Syrian regime's President Bashar al Assad, members of his family, and individuals close to them in the international narcotics trade. The newspaper investigation revealed that the head of the Syrian regime is financing his rule from drug money. The article in Der Spiegel quoted Joel Rayburn, the former United States Special Envoy for Syria, who said that Syria under Bashar al Assad has become a narco-state, with Captagon pills being its most important export. The investigation added that the name of Bashar al Assad's brother, Maher al Assad, often appears in documentation showing his responsibility for transporting drug shipments, confirming that the Fourth Division which he runs has turned into a mafia-like conglomerate with a military arm that guards drug shipments and factories, controls the ports and processes large amounts of money.

On June 28, Omran Reda, the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria, [told](#) the Guardian that more than 100 people, including women, have been killed in al Hawl camp over a period of 18 months, and indicated that the camp suffers from insecurity, adding that the children living there are sentenced to “a life without a future”, with 94% of the camp’s residents being women and children.

On June 28, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) [issued a report](#) on the death toll of civilians in Syria. The report stated that at least 306,887 civilians were killed in Syria between March 2011 and March 31, 2021, including 27,126 children and 26,727 females. This number is the highest estimate issued to date regarding civilian deaths related to the conflict in Syria. The OHCHR said that in preparing the report, it relied on eight sources, including the SNHR. We issued a [statement](#) in this regard on June 29.

On June 29, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) issued a [statement](#) in which it condemned the increase in restrictions imposed by the Self-Management forces on journalists in northern and eastern Syria. The statement indicated that the aim of these restrictions is to tighten the grip of the Self-Management forces on news coverage in the region.

Regarding the renewal of the UN cross-border aid delivery mechanism at the beginning of July 2022:

On June 10, [the International Rescue Committee](#) issued a statement stating that the Security Council must reauthorize the cross-border humanitarian aid delivery mechanism to northwest Syria.

On June 14, [Refugees International](#) warned that Russia’s veto during the vote to reauthorize the cross-border humanitarian aid delivery mechanism to northwest Syria at the Security Council session in July would lead to a major humanitarian crisis in the region.

On June 14, 32 non-governmental organizations demanded in a [joint statement](#) that the Security Council renew the mandate of the cross-border aid delivery mechanism in Syria for an additional year.

On June 15, [Russia’s RIA Novosti](#) news agency quoted Alexander Lavrentiev, the Russian Special Presidential Envoy on Syria, as saying that Russia “[supports the abolition of the cross-border aid delivery mechanism in Syria](#),” during his speech at the 18th Astana talks, adding, “It is possible to develop new mechanisms.”

On June 15, Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesman for the Secretary-General of the United Nations, said in [his daily press briefing](#) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, that during the preceding month, more than 1,000 trucks had crossed through Bab al Hawa crossing loaded with food and health supplies as part of the UN cross-border operations from Türkiye into Syria, reaching 2.4 million people in northwest Syria. He pointed out that the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased from 3.4 million people in 2021 to 4.1 million people so far in 2022, most of whom are women and children.

On June 16, the UNHCR issued a [joint press release](#) by a number of UN bodies, calling on members of the Security Council to renew Security Council Resolution 2585, authorizing continued cross-border assistance for an additional 12 months, warning that any failure to renew the resolution will have dire humanitarian consequences for the northwest region of Syria.

On June 16, the SNHR issued a report entitled ["UN Cross-Border Aid Must Continue to Enter Syria, Even If Russia Vetoes It."](#) The report said that the entry of UN cross-border aid is a legitimate act and does not require permission from the Security Council. However, the report noted, the Council has monopolized this humanitarian mission, and included it within its powers, when it issued Resolution 2165. The report indicated that millions of internally displaced Syrians in northwest Syria are in dire need of UN cross-border aid.

On June 20, during a session of the Security Council to discuss the situation in Syria, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres [appealed to](#) the members of the Security Council to renew a resolution on delivering lifesaving aid to northwest Syria, through cross-border operations, noting that the humanitarian needs in Syria are currently at their highest levels since the start of the conflict more than 11 years ago.

On June 29, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Syria (COI) presented [its oral update](#) to the United Nations Human Rights Council on the situation in Syria. Paulo Pinheiro, Chair of the UNCOI, said during the briefing that Syria's humanitarian needs are at their highest ever level.

On June 29, Geir Pedersen, the UN Special Envoy for Syria, said during a [video teleconference](#) to the Security Council that the renewing the resolution authorizing cross-border humanitarian aid into Syria is absolutely essential to saving lives and would support efforts towards a political solution to the conflict.

On the course of advocacy and the pursuit of accountability:

On May 31, the Council of the European Union issued a [statement](#) announcing the extension of sanctions and restrictive measures against the Syrian regime for an additional year, until 1 June 2023, in light of its continued repression of the civilian population. According to the statement, the Council removed three persons from the list, which includes 289 persons targeted by both an assets freeze and a travel ban, and 70 entities subject to an assets freeze.

On June 4, the SNHR issued a [statement](#) on the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, in which it stated that Syrian children have been subjected to the worst forms of aggression for 12 years amid a complete failure to resolve the Syrian conflict. The statement added that 29,791 children have been killed in Syria since March 2011, including 181 who were killed due to torture.

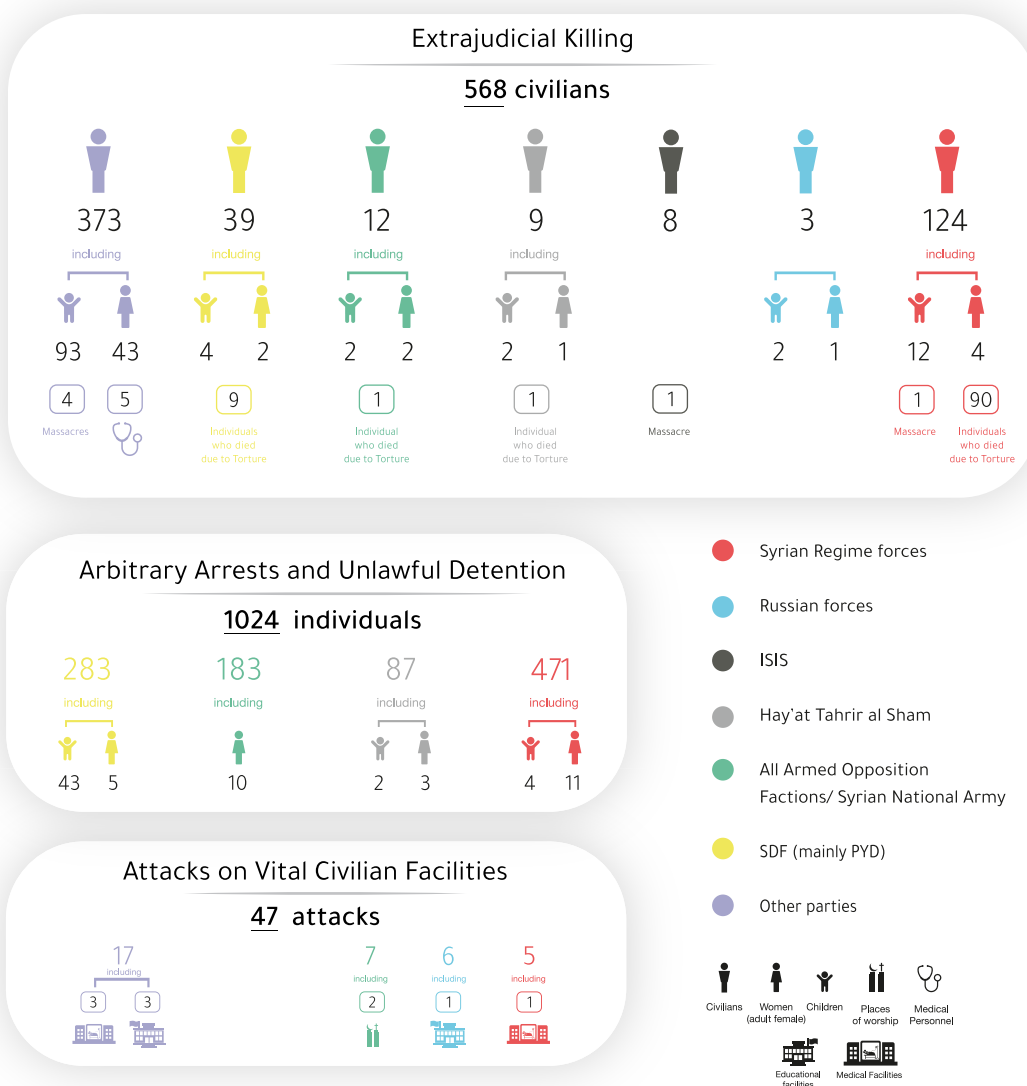
On June 7, [the Associated Press](#) said that the US Prosecution had convicted an American woman for heading a battalion of ISIS fighters in Syria. The agency added that more than 100 women and girls had received training from the guilty woman, as she had been in Syria since late 2012 or early 2013, while her husband at that time assumed a leadership position in ISIS responsible for training snipers.

On June 21, [the European Court of Human Rights](#) ruled, according to a [press statement](#) issued by the court, that Türkiye illegally returned a Syrian refugee to Syria, after forcing him to sign a voluntary return document. The statement added that the prosecutor, Muhammad Fawzi al Akkad, was arrested by the Turkish authorities while trying to cross into Greece in 2018, after which he was deported to Syria two days after his arrest. The court also ruled that Türkiye must pay the plaintiff 9,750 euros in compensation for non-material damages and 2,500 euros in terms of costs and expenses.

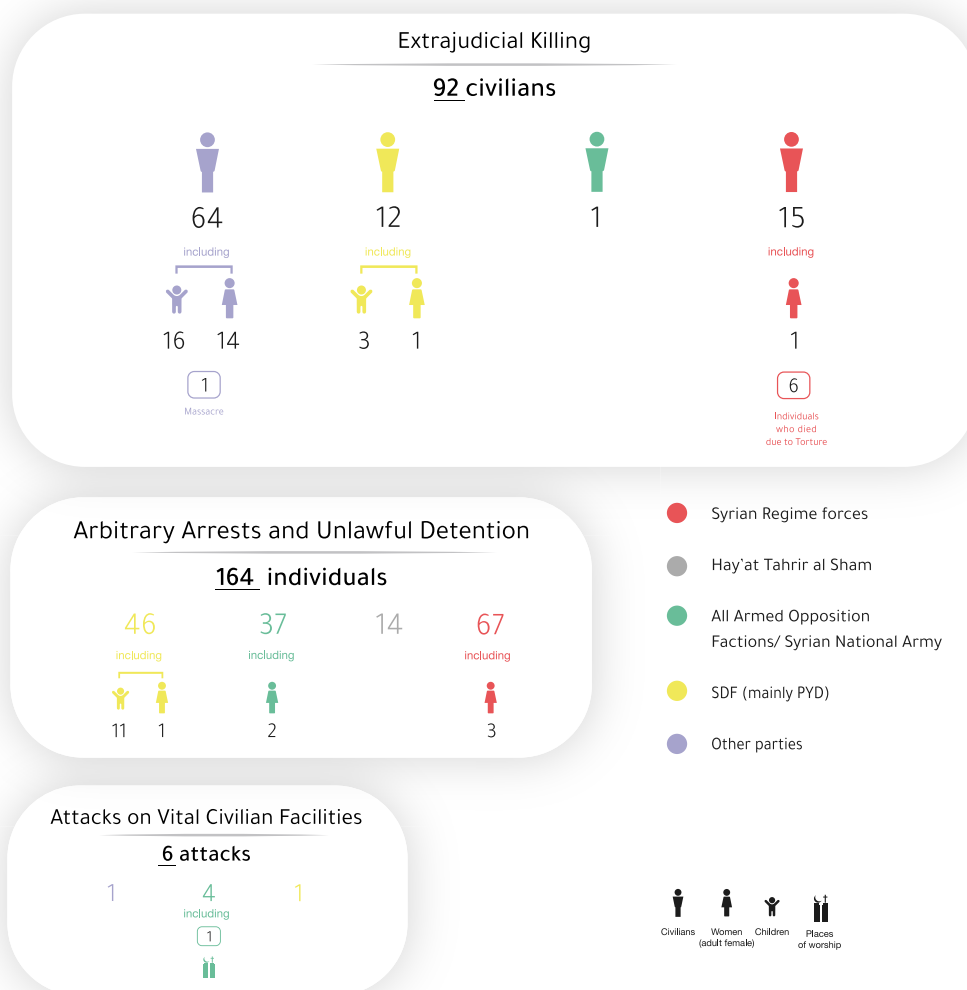
On June 29, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office in the British government added four Russian officers, two of whom were leaders in the Russian Wagner militia, and three Russian entities to the British sanctions list for Syria. According to [the office's statement](#), the individuals added to the sanctions list had participated in supporting the Syrian regime. In addition, two of those added to the list are leaders of the Russian Wagner militia, while the entities added to the list work in the oil and gas industry in Syria, which is considered to be providing support for the Syrian regime.

III. The Most Notable Human Rights Violations in Syria in the First Half of 2022

This report outlines the most notable human rights violations that were documented by the SNHR in the first half of 2022 at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.



The report also outlines what SNHR documented in June 2022.



A. Extrajudicial killing:

1. In the first half of 2022:

In the first half of 2022, SNHR documented the deaths of 568 civilians, including 115 children and 53 women (adult female), the largest percentage of whom were killed at the hands of other parties; among the victims were five medical personnel. We also documented the deaths of 101 individuals due to torture, in addition to documenting at least six massacres. We issued a report on the second of this month detailing the civilian victims documented killed at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The death toll of civilian victims was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria as follows:

A. The main parties:

- Syrian regime forces (army, security, local militias, and Shiite foreign militias):⁴ 124 civilians, including 12 children and four women.
- Russian forces: Three civilians (two children and one women.)
- ISIS (the self-proclaimed 'Islamic State'): Eight civilians.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham:⁵ Nine civilians, including two children and one woman.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: 12 civilians, including two children and two women.
- Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (the Democratic Union Party): 39 civilians, including four children and two women.

B. Other parties:

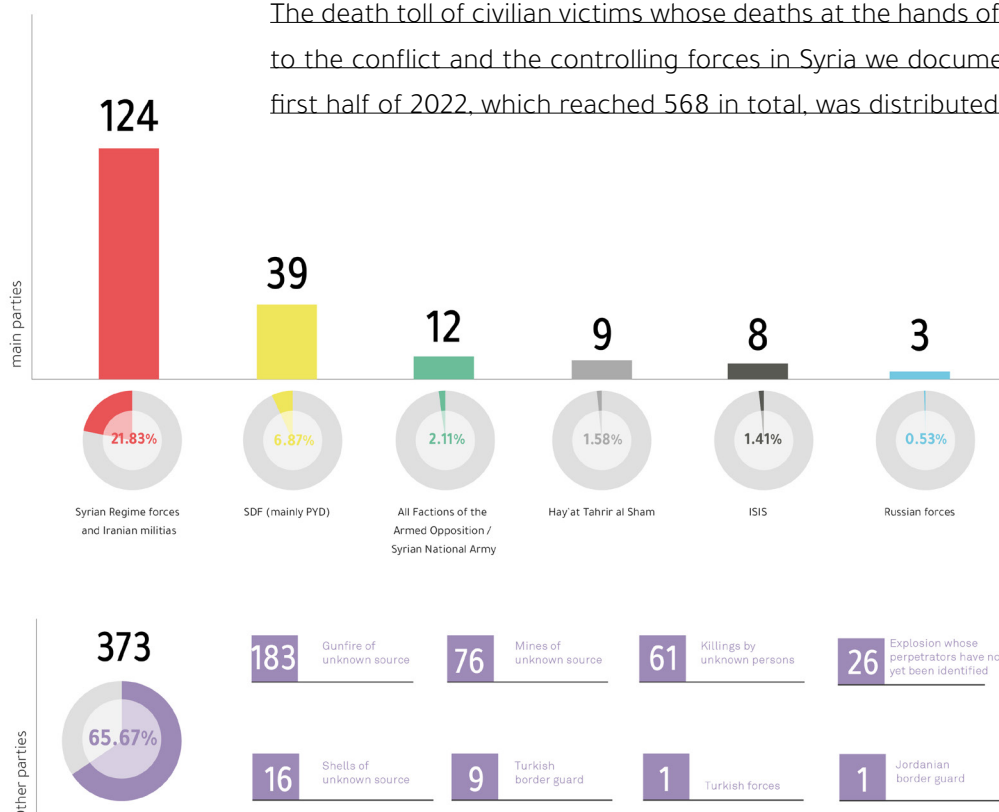
We documented the deaths of 373 civilians, including 93 children and 43 women, at the hands of other parties, distributed as follows:

- 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.

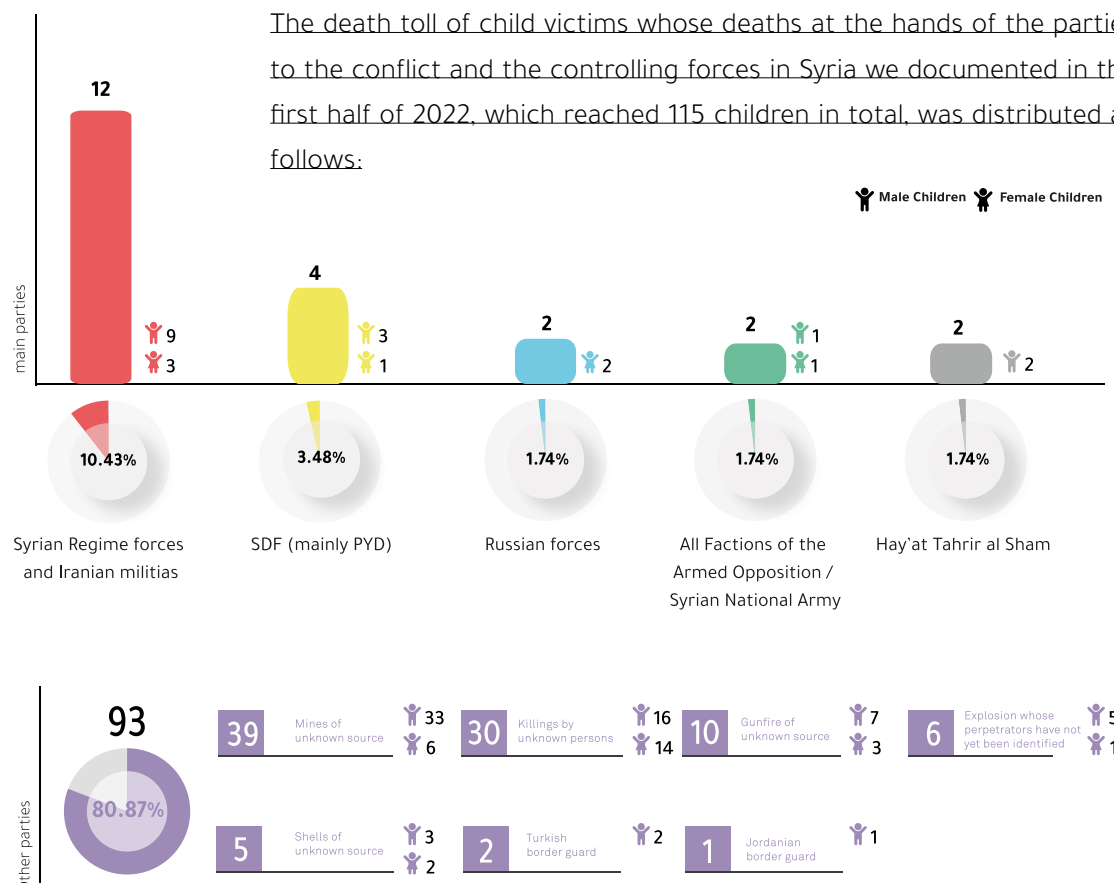
⁴ We generally use the term 'the Syrian regime' rather than 'the Syrian government', because the nature of the ruling power in Syria is a totalitarian dictatorship based on ruling the nation in an authoritarian fashion through a very limited group of individuals, primarily the President of the Republic 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.

⁵ The United Nations has designated it as a terrorist organization

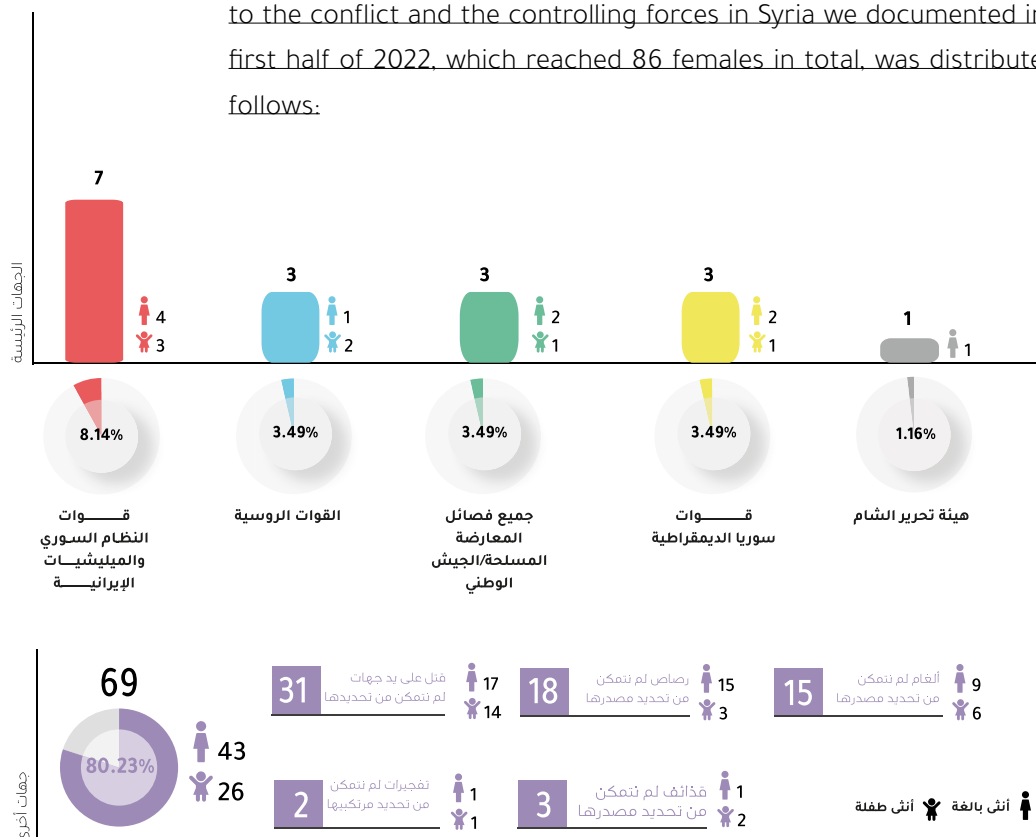
The death toll of civilian victims whose deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria we documented in the first half of 2022, which reached 568 in total, was distributed as follows:



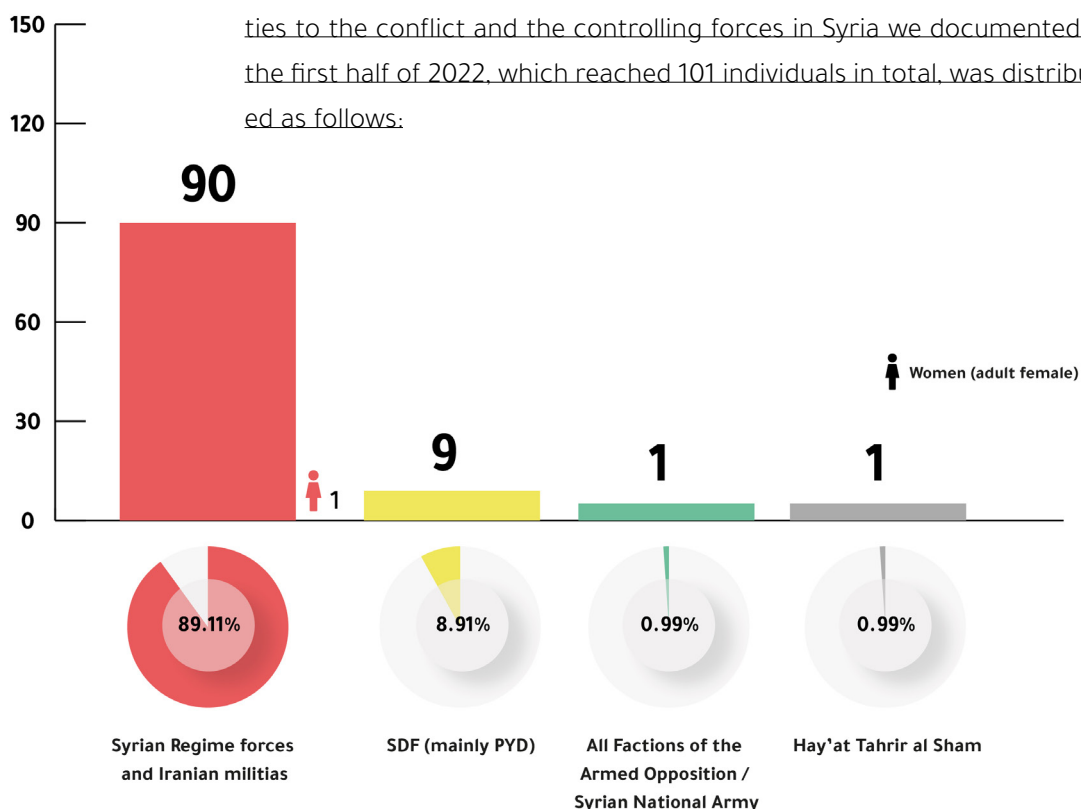
The death toll of child victims whose deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria we documented in the first half of 2022, which reached 115 children in total, was distributed as follows:



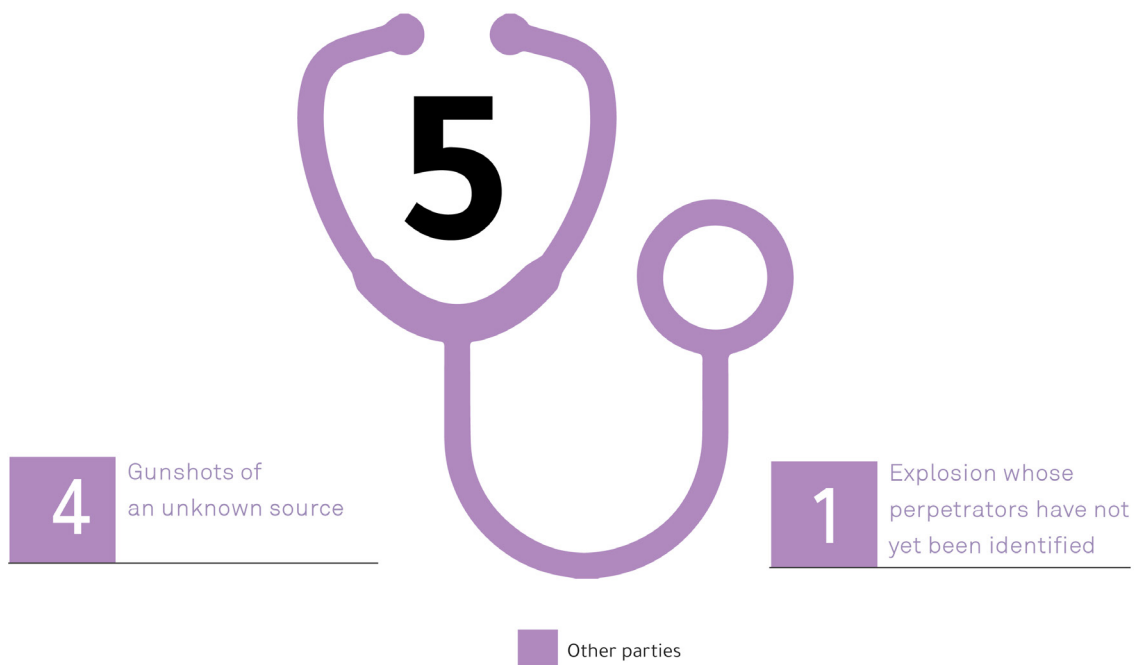
The death toll of female victims whose deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria we documented in the first half of 2022, which reached 86 females in total, was distributed as follows:



The death toll of victims whose deaths by torture at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria we documented in the first half of 2022, which reached 101 individuals in total, was distributed as follows:



We documented the deaths of five medical personnel in the first half of 2022, all of whom were killed at the hands of other parties:



2. In June 2022:

In June 2022, SNHR documented the deaths of 92 civilians, including 19 children and 16 women (adult female), the largest percentage of whom were killed at the hands of other parties. We also documented six individuals who died due to torture, and at least one massacre.

The death toll of civilian victims was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria as follows:

A. The main parties:

- Syrian regime forces: 15 civilians, including one woman.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: One civilian.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: 12 civilians, including three children and one woman.

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.

B. Arbitrary arrest and enforced disappearance:

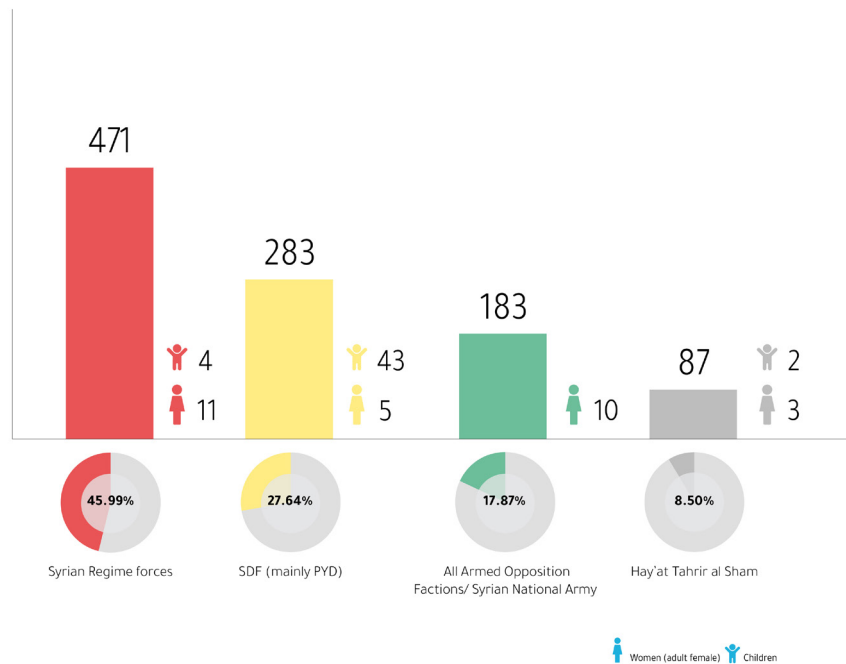
1. In the first half of 2022:

In the first half of 2022, SNHR documented at least 1,024 cases of arbitrary arrests, including 49 children and 29 women (adult female), at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria. The largest number of arrests was carried out by Syrian regime forces in the governorates of Damascus Suburbs, Daraa, then Damascus. We issued a report on the fifth of this month detailing the record of cases of arrests and enforced disappearances at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

The record of cases of arbitrary arrests was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:

- Syrian regime forces: 471, including four children and 11 women.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham: 87, including two children and three women.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: 183, including 10 women.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: 283, including 43 children and five women.

The record of cases of arbitrary arrests in the first half of 2022, which reached 1,024 in total, was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria as follows:



2. In June 2022:

In June 2022, SNHR documented at least 164 cases of arbitrary arrests, including 11 children and six women (adult female), at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria. The largest number of arrests was carried out by Syrian regime forces in the governorates of Damascus Suburbs, Damascus, then Suwayda.

The record of cases of arbitrary arrests was distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:

- Syrian regime forces: 67, including three women.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham: 14.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: 37, including two women.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: 46, including 11 children and one woman.

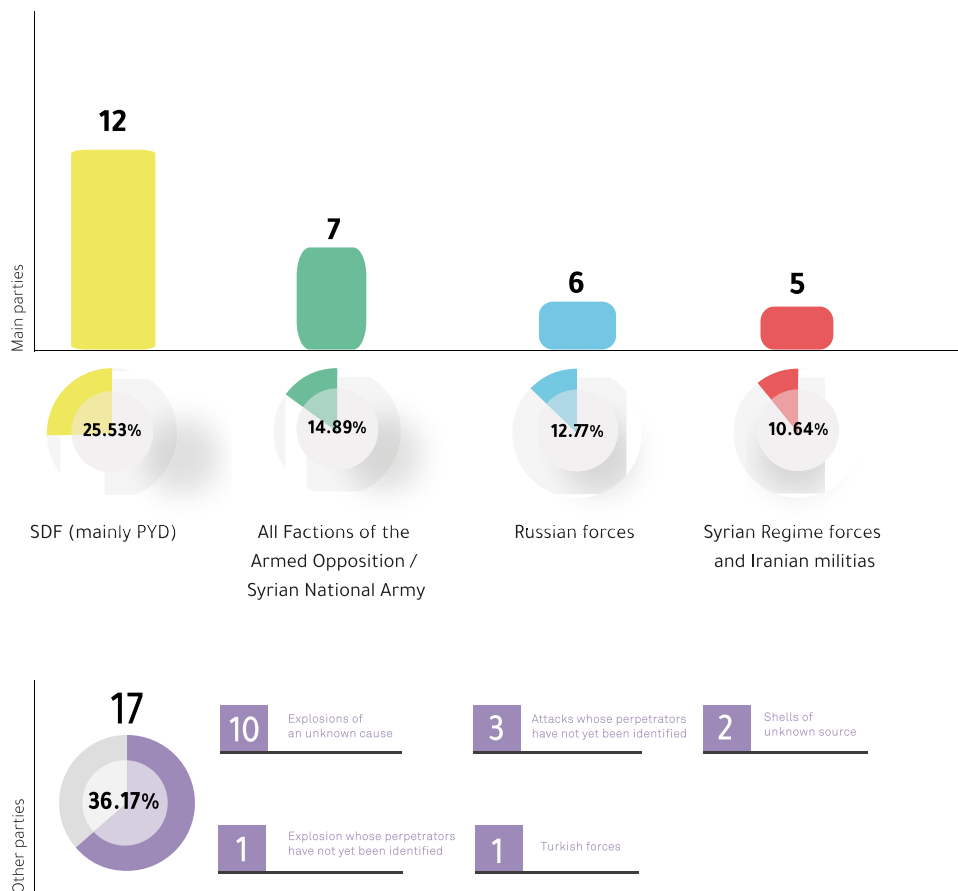
C. Attacks on vital civilian facilities:

1. In the first half of 2022:

In the first half of 2022, SNHR documented at least 47 incidents of attacks on vital civilian facilities at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria.

Among these attacks, we documented six on educational facilities, six on medical facilities, and three others were on places of worship.

These attacks were distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:



A. The main parties:

- Syrian regime forces: Five.
- Russian forces: Six.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: Seven.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: 12.

B. Other parties:

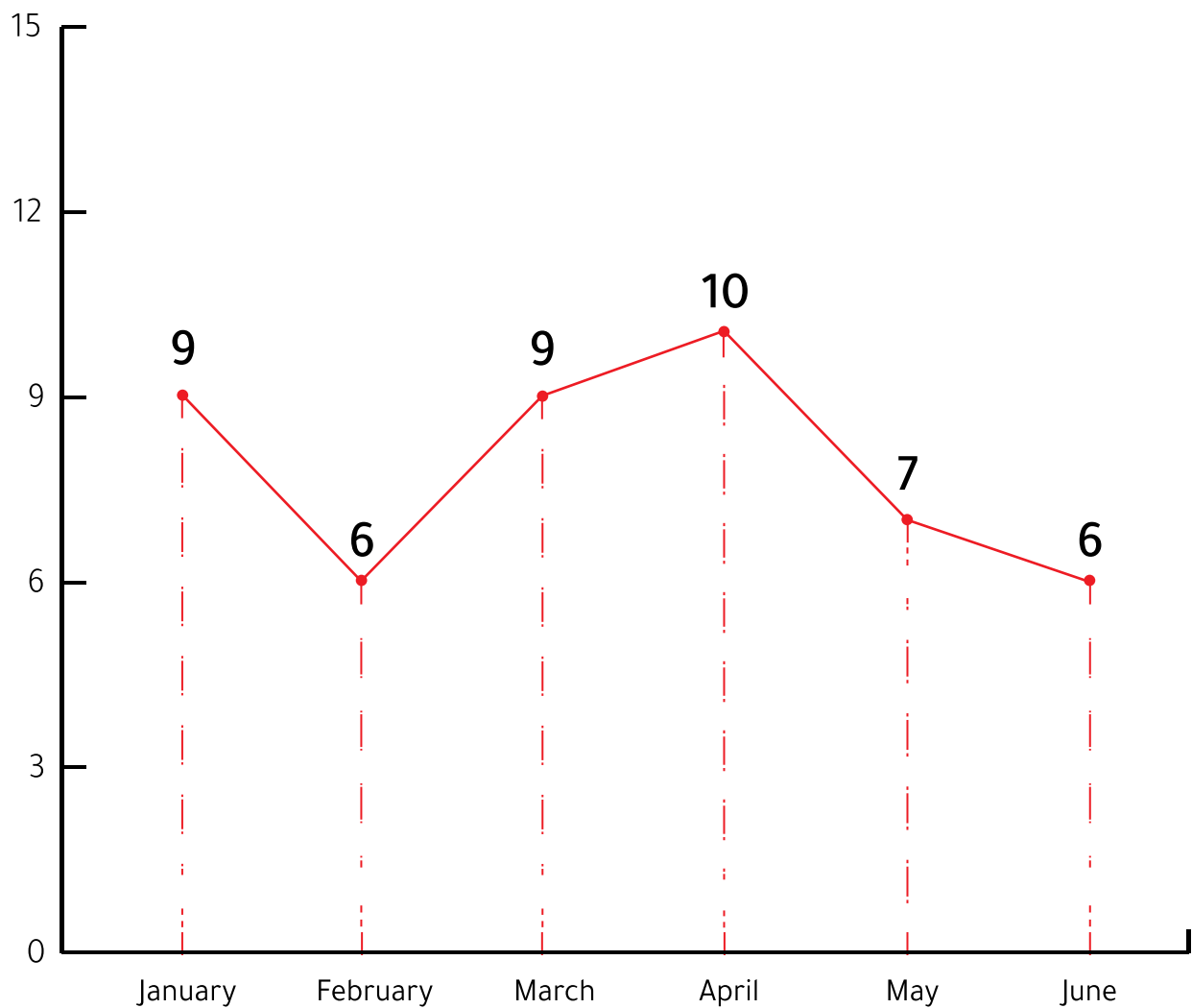
Other parties committed 17 incidents, which were distributed as follows:

- Explosion whose perpetrators have not yet been identified: One.
- Explosions of an unknown cause: 10.
- Attacks whose perpetrators have not yet been identified: Three.
- Shells of unknown source: Two attacks which are still under investigation, with the primary parties suspected of responsibility for these two attacks are either Syrian regime forces or Syrian Democratic Forces.
- Turkish forces: One.

The record of attacks on vital civilian facilities carried out at the hands of the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces in Syria, which we documented in the first half of 2022, which reached 47 in total, was distributed as follows:

Perpetrator Party Attacked Facility	Syrian regime forces	Russian forces	All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army	Syrian Democratic Forces	Other parties				
					Explosion whose perpetrators have not yet been identified	Explosions of an unknown cause	Attacks whose perpetrators have not yet been identified	Shells of unknown source	Turkish forces
Places of Worship									
Mosques			2	1					
Vital Educational Facilities									
Schools		1		2		1		1	1
Vital Medical Facilities									
Medical Facilities	1			2		2	1		
Ambulances			1						
Vital Cultural Facilities									
Archeological Sites	1								
Communal Facilities									
Markets	2			1		2		1	
Parks				1					
Playgrounds and stadiums				1		1			
Infrastructure									
Power stations and energy facilities			1						
Civil Defense Centers				1					
Water facilities and related resources		1				1	1		
Bakeries				1		1			
Official Headquarters	1		1	1		2	1		
Domestic animal fars		4							
Transportation means					1				
IDP Camps									
IDP Camps			2	1					
Total	5	6	7	12	1	10	3	2	1

The record of attacks on vital civilian facilities in the first half of 2022 was distributed monthly as follows:



The chart shows that April saw the highest number of attacks on vital civilian facilities in the first half of 2022 accounting for 22% of the total, followed by January and March, each of which accounted for 20% of the total. The SNHR notes that, according to its database, the largest proportion of these incidents took place in Aleppo governorate in the first half of 2022, with that region subjected to 19 incidents, followed by Idlib with a total of 11 incidents, then Hasaka with a total of six incidents.

2. In June 2022:

In June 2022, SNHR documented at least six incidents of attacks on vital civilian facilities, four of which were at the hands of all Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army, mostly in Aleppo governorate. Among these attacks, we documented one on a place of worship.

These attacks were distributed according to the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces as follows:

A. The main parties:

- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army: Four.
- Syrian Democratic Forces: One.

B. Other parties:

Explosions of an unknown cause: One.

Perpetrator Party Attacked Facility	All Armed Opposition factions/ Syrian National Army	Syrian Democratic Forces	Other parties
			Explosions of an unknown cause
Places of Worship			
Mosques	1		
Vital Medical Facilities			
Ambulances	1		1
Communal Facilities			
Markets		1	
Infrastructure			
Bakeries			1
IDP Camps			
IDP Camps	2		
Total	4	1	1

The most notable attacks on vital civilian facilities documented in June:

On the night of Wednesday, June 1, 2022, an explosion whose cause we have been unable to identify rocked a munitions depot located at a military position belonging to an armed opposition faction, Failaq al Sham, which is part of the 'National Front for Liberation'. The munitions depot is located in a hilly region north of Babsqa village in the northern suburbs of Idlib, around which dozens of IDP camps are spread. The initial explosion caused fires, which were followed by several more violent explosions, with rockets and missiles flying long distances around the camp area, resulting in casualties, [in addition to causing significant and varying material damage to about 21 IDP camps, burning a number of tents.](#)

The SNHR notes that this incident immediately caused the displacement of approximately 3,500 civilians, mostly children and women, from these camps, with the already traumatized residents fearing falling shrapnel and shells, while a number of camps that were close to the site of the explosion were evacuated.



Damage in Salah al Din IDP camp northern Idlib, caused by the explosion of an ammunition depot belonging to Faylaq al Sham, located near the camp - June 1, 2022 - Photographed by Muhannad Muhammad

On Wednesday, June 1, 2022, Syrian Democratic Forces personnel stationed in Ein Eisa district in the northern suburbs of Raqqah governorate used a missile launcher to bomb a market in Tal Abyad city in the northern suburbs of Raqqah governorate, with the bombardment resulting in casualties, in addition to causing significant material damage to a number of shops and market facilities. Tal Abyad city was under the control of the Syrian National Army forces at the time of the incident.

On Wednesday, June 22, 2022, the explosion of an improvised explosive device planted by an unknown party near al Hasan Bakery on the main road in al Shaddadi city in the southern suburbs of Hasaka governorate, caused moderate material damage to the front of the bakery. The SNHR is still trying to reach witnesses of the incident to obtain more details. The city was under the control of the Syrian Democratic Forces at the time of the incident.

D. Record of indiscriminate attacks and attacks using outlawed weapons:

The Syrian Network for Human Rights was unable to document any indiscriminate attacks or attacks using outlawed weapons in the first half of 2022.

IV. Attachments:

[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](#)

[At Least 1,024 Arbitrary Arrests/Detentions Documented in Syria in the First Half of 2022, Including 49 Children and 29 Women, with 164 of These Cases Documented in June](#)

V. Conclusions and Recommendations:

Conclusions:

- The evidence we have gathered indicates that attacks continue to be directed against civilians and civilian objects. Syrian-Russian alliance forces have committed various crimes, including extrajudicial killings, arrests, torture, and enforced disappearances. In addition, the indiscriminate bombardment and other attacks carried out caused 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.
- The Syrian government has not only violated international humanitarian law and customary law, but has also breached a number of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2139, resolution 2042 on the release of detainees, and resolution 2254, all without any accountability.
- We could find no record of any warnings being issued by the Syrian Regime or Russian forces prior to any attack under the requirements of international humanitarian law. This has been the case since the beginning of the popular uprising for freedom, providing another blatant demonstration of these forces' total disregard for the lives of civilians in Syria.
- The magnitude and frequency of the violations, the disproportionate use of military force, the indiscriminate manner of the bombing, and the coordinated approach of these attacks lead to the inescapable conclusion that these acts are wholly deliberate and based on high-level orders, and as such constitute a part of state policy.
- The indiscriminate and disproportionate bombardment carried out by the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces is considered to be a clear violation of international humanitarian law, with indiscriminate killings amounting to war crimes.
- Hay'at Tahrir al Sham has violated international humanitarian law, causing the death of many civilians, as well as damage to vital civilian facilities.
- All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army violated UN Security Council Resolution 2139 through carrying out attacks that are considered to violate customary international humanitarian law, causing civilian casualties or accidental injuries.
- All the attacks documented in this report, particularly bombings, caused massive collateral damage that involved loss of lives, injuries, or significant damage to civilian objects. There are strong indicators suggesting that this damage was excessive compared to the anticipated military benefit.

- The use of explosive arms to target densely populated areas reflects a criminal and wholly deliberate mindset, with the perpetrators clearly intending to inflict the greatest possible number of deaths, which is a clear contravention of international human rights law and a flagrant violation of the Geneva IV Convention (arts. 27, 31, 32).

Recommendations:

UN Security Council

- The Security Council must take additional steps following its adoption of Resolution 2254, which clearly insists that “ all parties immediately cease any attacks against civilians and civilian objects as such.”
- The Syrian issue should be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those who are responsible for violations should be held accountable, while Russia must stop using the veto, as it is a party to the Syrian conflict, and the UNSC states’ veto power should be withheld when crimes against humanity and war crimes are committed.
- Ensure peace and security and implement the principle of responsibility to protect civilians’ lives and to save the Syrian people’s heritage and historical artifacts from destruction, looting and vandalism.
- The Security Council should adopt a resolution banning the use of cluster munitions and landmines in Syria, similar to the existing prohibition on the use of chemical weapons, and include advice on how to safely remove the remnants of such dangerous weapons.
- The four other permanent member states should put pressure on the Russian government to end its support for the Syrian regime, which uses chemical weapons, and to expose its involvement in this regard.
- Request that all relevant United Nations agencies make greater efforts to provide food, medical and humanitarian assistance in areas where fighting has ceased, and in internally displaced person camps, and to follow-up with those States that have pledged voluntary contributions.

International Community

- In light of the split within the Security Council and its utter inability to take any effective action, action should be taken on the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people by protecting them from daily killing and by lifting sieges, as well as by increasing support for relief efforts. Additionally, the principle of universal jurisdiction should be enacted 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’ in dozens of studies and reports and as a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (ICRtoP) after all political channels through the Arab League’s plan and then Mr. Kofi Annan’s plan have proved fruitless, along with the Cessation of Hostilities statements and Astana agreements that followed. Therefore, steps should be taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, while the norm of the ‘Responsibility to Protect’, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, should be implemented. The Security Council is still hindering the protection of civilians in Syria.

- Renew pressure on the Security Council to refer the case in Syria to the International Criminal Court.
- 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.

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 incidents mentioned in this report and previous reports since these attacks were perpetrated by the parties to the conflict and the controlling forces.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI)

- Launch investigations into the cases included in this report and previous reports. SNHR is willing to co-operate and provide further evidence and data.
- Focus on the issue of landmines and cluster munitions within the next report.

International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM)

- Collect further evidence about the crimes documented in this report.

The United Nations Special Envoy to Syria

- Condemn the perpetrators of crimes and 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 establishment of a transitional governing body.

The Syrian regime

- Stop indiscriminate shelling and targeting of residential areas, hospitals, schools and markets, and end the use of outlawed weapons and barrel bombs.
- Ensure compliance with UN Security Council resolutions and customary humanitarian law.

The Russian regime

- Launch investigations into the incidents included in this report, make the findings of these investigations public for the Syrian people, and hold those responsible accountable.
- Compensate all the damaged centers and facilities, rebuild and rehabilitate them, and compensate all the families of victims who were killed by the current Russian regime, as well as all the wounded.
- Completely cease the bombing of hospitals, protected objects, and civilian areas, and respect customary international law.
- As a guarantor party in 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 to allow unconditional passage of humanitarian aid to besieged areas.

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

- The states supporting the SDF should apply pressure on these forces in order to compel them to cease all of their violations in all the areas and towns under their control.
- Syrian Democratic Forces must immediately stop conscripting children, hold the officers involved in such violations accountable, and pledge to return all children who have been arrested for conscription immediately.

All Armed Opposition factions/Syrian National Army

- The Armed Opposition/Syrian National Army must 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.
- Take punitive action against those who commit violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Humanitarian Organizations

- Develop urgent operational plans to secure decent shelter for internally displaced persons.
- Provide protected facilities and vehicles, such as medical facilities, schools, and ambulances, with distinctive signs that can be distinguished from long distances.

Acknowledgments

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all family members, relatives and friends of the victims, as well as eyewitnesses and local activists whose contributions have enriched this report.



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