

23 Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Killed

45 Incidents of Attack on Vital Medical and Civil Defense Facilities in April 2017

Russian Forces Have Perpetrated more Violations than Every Other Party

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Sunday, May 7, 2017

The Syrian Network for Human Rights, founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, non-profit independent organization that is a primary source for the United Nations on all death toll-related statistics in Syria



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I. Introduction and Methodology

SNHR's high-level methodology for documentation relies on survivors and families' direct accounts in addition to the process of verifying and analyzing pictures, videos, and some medical records. However, we can't claim that we have documented all cases in light of the ban and pursuit by Syrian regime forces and some of the other armed groups.

To read more about SNHR [methodology](#) for documenting victims, please see the following URL. The consistent bombing and targeting of medical facilities and civil defense centers by Syrian regime forces since 2011, and the killing and arrest of medics and civil defense personnel at the hands of different conflict parties, especially Syrian regime forces, indicates a systematic policy that only aims to shed more blood and deepen the suffering of the injured – civilians and armed.

Fadel Abdul Ghany, chairman of SNHR, says:

“The Russian attacks on medical and civil defense centers as well as medical and civil defense personnel are considered a blatant violation of the international humanitarian law and constitute war crimes considering the chaotic, and in many cases, deliberate, targeting of protected objects. All of this have only deepened the suffering of the wounded and injured and is one of the main reasons behind the displacement of the Syrian people as it sends a very clear message: there is no safe area, or a red line, including hospitals, you either flee or perish.”



This report only represents the bare minimum, which we were able to document, of the actual magnitude and severity of the violations that occurred. Additionally, the report doesn't cover the social, economic, and psychological ramifications.

II. Executive Summary

SNHR documented in the month of April 2017 the following main violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities:

A. Acts of killing

We documented the killing of 23 medical personnel, civil defense personnel, and Red Crescent personnel, as follows:

- Syrian regime forces (Army, security, local militias, Shiite foreign militias): killed seven medical personnel, including one woman (adult female), as follows:

- Two nurses; one of whom was a woman
- One paramedic
- Two pharmacists
- One medical personnel
- One civil defense personnel

- Russian forces: killed 14 medical, civil defense, and Red Crescent personnel, as follows

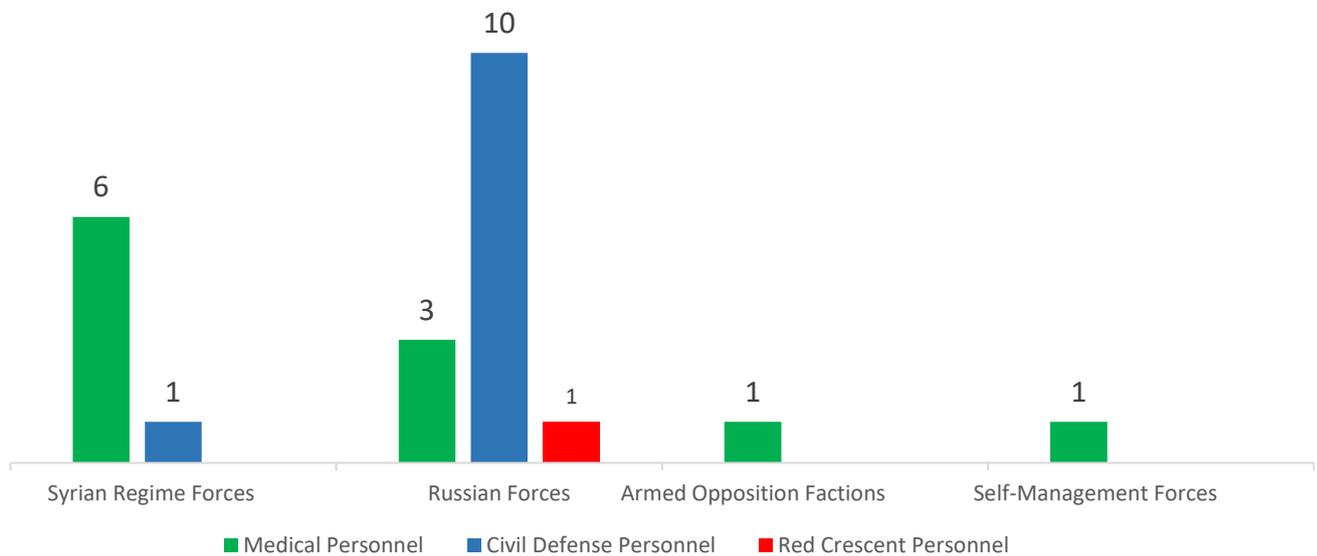
- Two nurses
- One Red Crescent personnel
- One medical personnel
- 10 civil defense personnel

- Armed opposition factions: killed one paramedic

- Self-Management forces (Primarily consisting of the Democratic Union Party – a branch for the Kurdistan Workers' Party): killed one doctor



Medical, civil defense, and Red Crescent personnel killed in the month of April are distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:



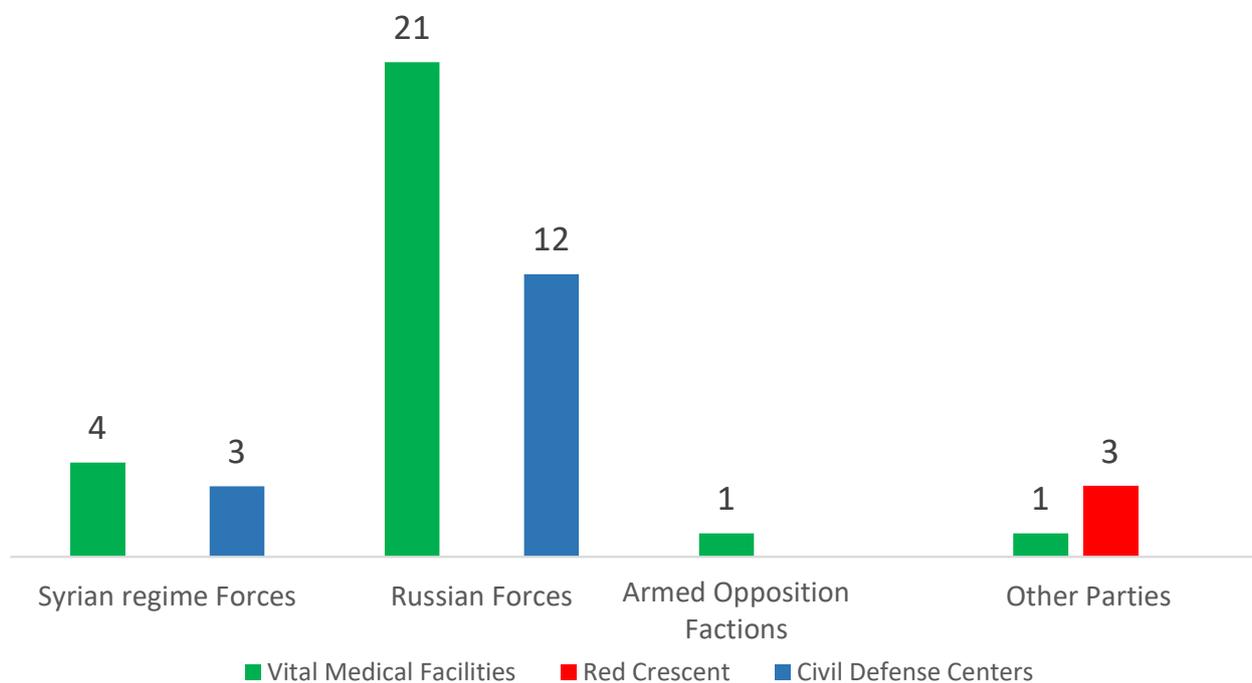
B. Targeting of vital medical and civil defense facilities

SNHR documented 45 incidents of attack on vital medical facilities and facilities for the civil defense facilities and Red Crescent, as follows:

- Syrian regime forces (Army, security, local militias, foreign Shiite militias): we recorded seven incidents as follows:
 - Three medical facilities
 - One ambulance
 - Three civil defense centers
- Russian forces: 33 incidents, as follows:
 - 11 medical facilities
 - 10 ambulances
 - 12 civil defense centers
- Armed opposition factions: one incident of attack on an ambulance
- Other parties: four incidents of attack, as follows:
 - One ambulance
 - Three Red Crescent facilities



Incidents of attack on vital medical and civil defense facilities are distributed by the perpetrator party as follows:



III. Details

First: Acts of killing

A. Syrian regime forces

Emad al Din Mohammad al Qadah, [pharmacist](#), married and a father of three. he suffocated to death along with his children and a number of his family on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 after fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile loaded with poison gases in al Shamali neighborhood in Khan Sheikhoun city in the southern suburbs of Idlib.

Munther Ali Younes al Jamous, [nurse](#), from Dael city in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate, born in 1970, works as a nurse at the emergency wing in Nabd Houran Makeshift [Hospital](#), married and a father of seven. He was killed on Sunday, April 9, 2017 in a bombardment by the fixed-wing of the Syrian-Russian alliance (investigations are still ongoing to accurately determine the perpetrator party) that fired missiles at Nabd Houran Hospital in Dael city.



Obada Mohammad Eid al Krad, a member of center 14 which is affiliated to the civil defense in [Daraa city](#), from Tareeq al Sad neighborhood in eastern Daraa city, born in 1991, single. He was killed on Friday, April 14, 2017, by the Syrian regime forces artillery that fired shells at Tareeq al Sad neighborhood.



Zahra Mohammad Ali al Takla, a female nurse, from Mesraba town in Eastern Ghouta in eastern Damascus suburbs governorate, born in 1955, works at Nabd al Hayat Hospital which is affiliated to al Marj Medical Hospital, married and a mother of six. She was killed on Sunday, April 16, 2017, in a bombardment by the fixed-wing warplanes of the Syrian-Russian warplanes (Investigations are still ongoing to accurately determine the perpetrator party) that fired missiles at the residential houses that are located on the road leading to Madira village from Misraba town.

Kamal al Aldouni, [paramedic](#), from Irbeen city in northeastern Damascus suburbs governorate, born in 1981, works for Irbeen Surgical Hospital, married and a father of three. HE was killed on Monday, April 17, 2017, by the Syrian regime rocket launchers that fired a rocket at the road between Irbeen city and Hazza town in Eastern Ghouta in eastern Damascus suburbs governorate as he was tending to the wounded from a previous shelling.



Emad Hussein al Nabelsi, [pharmacist](#), from al Yadouda village in the western suburb of Daraa governorate, 35-year-old, works as a laboratory technician at Tal Shehab Makeshift Hospital, married. He was killed on Saturday, April 22, 2017, by Syrian regime forces that fired an over-the-shoulder rocket at a car he was inside on the road between Ibta' town and al Sheikh Miskeen city in the mid suburbs of Daraa governorate.



Hasan Hamoud Arafat, [an ambulance driver](#), from Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate, born in 1988, married and a father of two. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombardment by the fixed-wing warplanes of the Syrian-Russian alliance (Investigations are still ongoing to determine the perpetrator party) that fired missile in the vicinity of the center 701 which is affiliated to the civil defense center in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



B. Russian forces

Saeer Haj Saleh, a member of Jesr al Shoghout city's civil defense center, from Jfatlak Haj Saleh village in the suburbs of Jesr al Shoghout city in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate, born in 1983, married. He died on Friday, April 7, 2017, while he was putting out a fire that broke out in a military base in western Jesr al Shoghout city in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate. The fire was a result of a bombardment by forces we believe were Russian that fired a long-range missile at the base.



Mohamad Abdul Haq Karnibou, a civil defense member in Jesr al Shoghour city, from Jesr al Shoghour city in the western suburbs of Idlib, born in 1986, married. He died on Friday, April 7, 2017, while he was putting out a fire that broke out in a military base in western Jesr al Shoghour city in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate. The fire was a result of a bombardment by forces we believe were Russian that fired a long-range missile at the base.



Mohammad Karnibou

Mus'ab Ahmad Urabi, a Qatari [Red Crescent personnel](#), from al Atareb city in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate, born in 1983, head of the Qatari Red Crescent media office in Syria, has an intermediate education certificate, married and a father of two. He was killed on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, in a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at al Suhaqiya village, which follows al Janoudiya town in the western suburbs of Idlib governorate, after he covered a vaccination campaign in al Janoudiya town.



Mus'ab Urabi

Majed Mohammad al Omar, nurse, from Qamhana town in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate, 30-year-old, works for Shamuna Emergency Network. He was killed on Thursday, April 27, 2017, as he was at the medical point in northwestern Ma'ar Zita village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate which was bombed by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian using missiles.



Majed al Omar



Yousef Ziad Soutal, [nurse](#), from al Trimisa village in the north-western suburbs of Idlib governorate, and lives in Hama city, born in 1992, works with the Emergency Network in Hama suburbs which is affiliated with the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), has a degree from the faculty of nursing in Hama city, married and a father of a child. He was killed on Thursday, April 27, 2017 in a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles in the vicinity of the medical point in northwestern Ma'ar Zita village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, while he was on his way with the medical teams to evacuate the victims who were killed in a previous bombardment on that point.



Saleh Ahmad Rahmoun, [an ambulance driver](#), from Kafr Nabouda town in the northwestern suburbs of [Hama governorate](#), born in 1985, works with the Emergency Network in Hama suburbs which is affiliated with SAMS, has a high school diploma, married and a father of three. He was killed on Thursday, April 27, 2017 in a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles in the vicinity of the medical point in northwestern Ma'ar Zita village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, while he was on his way with the medical teams to evacuate the victims who were killed in a previous bombardment on that point.



Amer Raslan al Aboud, a member of center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from [Kafr Zita](#) city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017 in a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense center, in Kafr Zita city.



Ahmad Khaled Shehada al Mustafa, a member of center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city.



Ahmad Mahmoud al Hallaq, member of center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of [Hama governorate](#). He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city.



Ahmad Nayef al Hussein, a media activist who works for center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from [al Zaka village](#) in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate, 27-year-old. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



Mazen al Sajnawi, member of center 114, affiliated to the civil defense, from [al Latamena town](#) in the northwestern suburbs of Hama governorate, 39-year-old. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



Abdul Halim Ahmad Shahin, a member of center 114, affiliated to the civil defense, from al Latamena town in the northwestern suburbs of Hama governorate, 37-year-old. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



Ghassan al Dallal, a member of center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from Hama city. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



Mustafa Mohammad al Najjar, a member of center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, from Hama city. He was killed on Saturday, April 29, 2017, in a bombing by fixed-wing war-planes we believe were Russian that fired missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in Kafr Zita city in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate.



C. Armed opposition factions

Amer Ryad Krenba, paramedic, from [Irbeen city](#) in northeastern Damascus suburbs governorate. Works with al Rahman Emergency Network, which is affiliated with Failaq al Rahman (an armed opposition faction). He was killed on Friday, April 28, 2017, where the ambulance he was in was shot during clashes between Jaish al Islam -an armed opposition faction, on one side, and Failq al Rahman and Hay'et Tahiri al Sham, on the other side, in the city. As of this writing, we haven't been able to identify the group that shot Amer.

D. Self-Management forces (Consisting primarily of the Democratic Union Party – a branch for the Kurdistan Workers' Party)

Mustafa Haj Qasem, a dentist, from [Hzaima town](#) in the northern suburbs of al Raqqa governorate, 41-year-old, married and has kids. He was killed along with four of his kids on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, in an artillery shelling by the Kurdish-majority Syrian Democratic Forces that fired a number of shells at Hzaima village.



Second: Targeting of vital medical and civil defense facilities

A. Syrian regime forces

Vital medical facilities

- Medical facilities (hospitals – dispensaries – medical points – makeshift hospitals)

Monday, April 3, 2017, fixed-wing Syrian regime warplanes fired two missiles at [Ibn Hayyan Clinic Center](#) -known as Jisreen Clinics and is composed of two floors- in [Jisreen town](#) in Eastern Ghouta, located in [eastern Damascus suburbs governorate](#). The missile fell in the upper floor, which was emptied of any equipment. The bombardment [partially destroyed](#) the upper floor and [heavily damaged](#) the lower floor and its equipment. As a result, the center was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that the center is a set of clinics that specialize in dentistry, internal medicine, pediatrics, and gynecology. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Image shows the destruction in Ibn Hayyan Medical Clinics Center in Jisreen town in Damascus suburbs, due to Syrian regime warplanes shelling, April 3, 2017 by: Mudar al Yassin © SNHR

The damages that resulted from a bombardment by fixed-wing Syrian regime warplanes on Ibn Hayyan Clinic Center in Jisreen town, Damascus suburbs – April 3, 2017 picture by: Mudar al Yassin



Sunday, April 9, 2017, around 01:30, the fixed-wing warplanes of the Syrian-Russian alliance (investigations are still ongoing to accurately determine the perpetrator party) fired missiles at Nabd Houran Makeshift Hospital in Dael city in the northern suburbs of Daraa governorate, which resulted in casualties. Additionally, the hospital building, its equipment, and cladding materials were heavily damaged. As a result, the hospital was temporarily rendered out of commission. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Wednesday, April 26, 2017, Syrian regime helicopters dropped two barrel bombs near the makeshift hospital in Nasib village in the eastern suburbs of Daraa governorate, which resulted in casualties. Additionally, the hospital building was slightly damaged. The village is under the control of armed opposition factions.

- Ambulances

Monday, April 17, 2017, Syrian regime rocket [launchers](#) fired a rocket near an ambulance belonging to Irbeen [Surgical Hospital](#) on the road between Irbeen city and Hazza town in Eastern Ghouta in eastern Damascus suburbs governorate, which resulted in the killing of one paramedic. Additionally, the car structure was moderately damaged, and its glass windows were shattered. The area is under the control of armed opposition factions.



The damages resulting from a shelling by Syrian regime forces rocket launchers shelling an ambulance belonging to Irbeen Surgical Hospital, Damascus suburbs – April 17, 2017



Civil defense facilities (centers - vehicles)

Monday, April 3, 2017, fixed-wing Syrian regime forces warplanes fired a missile near an [ambulance](#) -belonging to the civil defense's center 400- in Saqba city in eastern Damascus suburbs governorate, as the ambulance staff were tending to the wounded from a previous shelling. The ambulance was moderately damaged, and its glass windows were shattered. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Monday, April 3, 2017, the fixed-wing of the Syrian-Russian alliance (investigations are still ongoing to accurately determine the perpetrator party) fired missiles near an ambulance belonging to the civil defense center in al Latamena town in the northwestern suburbs of Hama governorate. The ambulance was heavily damaged and was rendered out of commission. The town is under the control of armed opposition factions.

Saturday, April, 8, 2017, the fixed-wing of the Syrian-Russian alliance (investigations are still ongoing to accurately determine the perpetrator party) fired a missile at an ambulance -belonging to the civil defense's center 14- in Daraa al Balad area in eastern [Daraa city](#). The ambulance structure was heavily destroyed and it was rendered out of commission. The area is under the control of armed opposition factions.



The destruction that resulted from a missile strike by the fixed-wing warplanes of the Syrian-Russian alliance in Daraa al Balad area, Daraa – April 8, 2017



B. Russian forces

Vital medical facilities

- Medical facilities

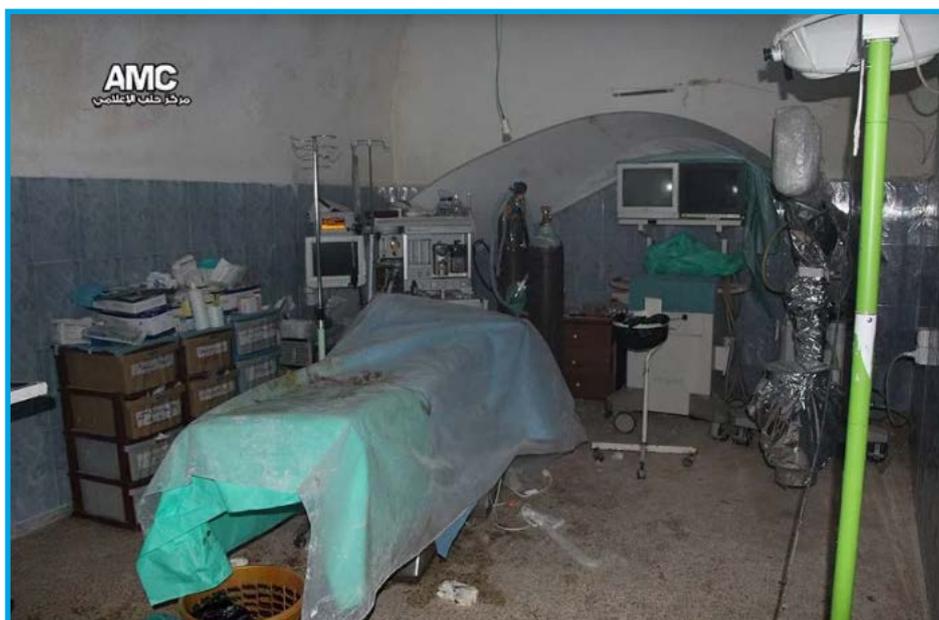
Sunday April 2, 2017, around 19:50, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired [three missiles](#) at the National Hospital “known as Ma’aret al Nu’man [Central Hospital](#)” in northwestern Ma’aret al Nu’man city in the [southern suburbs](#) of Idlib governorate. The missiles hit the [emergency wing](#), and the pediatrics and the obstetrics wing, which wounded a number of patients. Additionally, the hospital building was [heavily destroyed](#), and the equipment, as well as an [ambulance](#) belonging to the hospital, were heavily [damaged](#). As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



The damages resulting from a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian on the National Hospital in Ma’aret al Nu’man city, Idlib – April 2, 2017



Tuesday, April 4, 2017, around 13:00, [fixed-wing](#) warplanes we believe were Russian fired five missiles at [al Rahma Hospital](#) -which is established [inside a mountain](#) cave- and the adjacent civil defense centers in [Khan Sheikhoun city](#) in the southern suburbs of Idlib. Some of the missiles fell on the hospital, which partially destroyed the emergency wing, and heavily damaged the [hospital equipment](#). As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that the out-of-service hospital was bombed again [twice](#) on Sunday, April 16, 2017, where incendiary weapons were used in one of the two attacks. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



The damages that resulted from a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian on al Rahma Hospital in Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib – April 4, 2017

Friday, April 7, 2017, around 04:20, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile near Heesh Dispensary in al Shamali neighborhood of Heesh town in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The dispensary building, as well as its equipment, were moderately damaged. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Saturday, April 8, 2017, around 15:15, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian used incendiary weapons to target the vicinity of Heesh Dispensary in al Shamali neighborhood in Heesh town in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, which slightly damaged the building. It is worth noting that the same dispensary was bombed a day before by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Monday, April 17, 2017, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile at [al Ikhlas Hospital](#) in eastern Shnan village in [Jabal al Zawiya](#), located in the southern suburbs of Idlib, which [partially destroyed](#) the hospital building and [moderately damaged](#) its equipment. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. The same warplanes fired two missiles in the vicinity of the hospital after the civil defense and the medical teams arrived at the site. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Saturday, April 22, 2017, around 14:30, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired two missiles at the [Central Hospital](#) in Hama governorate (known as al Maghara Hospital, and established in a fortified cave under the ground). The hospital is affiliated to Hama Health Administration and is located on al Rakaya village in [eastern Abdin village](#) in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. [The bombardment](#) resulted in casualties. Additionally, the hospital was partially destroyed, and its equipment were heavily damaged.

As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that at 17:20 on the same day, a Syrian regime rocket launcher fired a surface-to-surface rocket that fell in the vicinity of the hospital as the civil defense teams were pulling out the [victims](#). Although the hospital was rendered out of commission, [Syrian regime](#) helicopters dropped a number of barrel bombs in its vicinity, about 150 meters away from it, on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



The destruction that resulted from fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian bombing the Central Hospital of Hama governorate in Abdin village, Idlib – April 22, 2017



Tuesday, April 25, 2017, around 00:30, [fixed-wing](#) warplanes we believe were Russian fired two missiles at the Martyr Wasim [Hsinou Hospital](#) which is affiliated to the Syrian Expatriate Medical Association (SEMA) in Kafr Takharim town in the [western suburbs](#) of Idlib governorate. [The two missiles](#) fell in the emergency yard in front of the hospital, whose building was partially destroyed. Additionally, a hole was created in the yard, and the furniture and equipment, as well as two [ambulances belonging](#) to the hospital, were damages to varying degrees. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that the hospital was occupying a school building. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

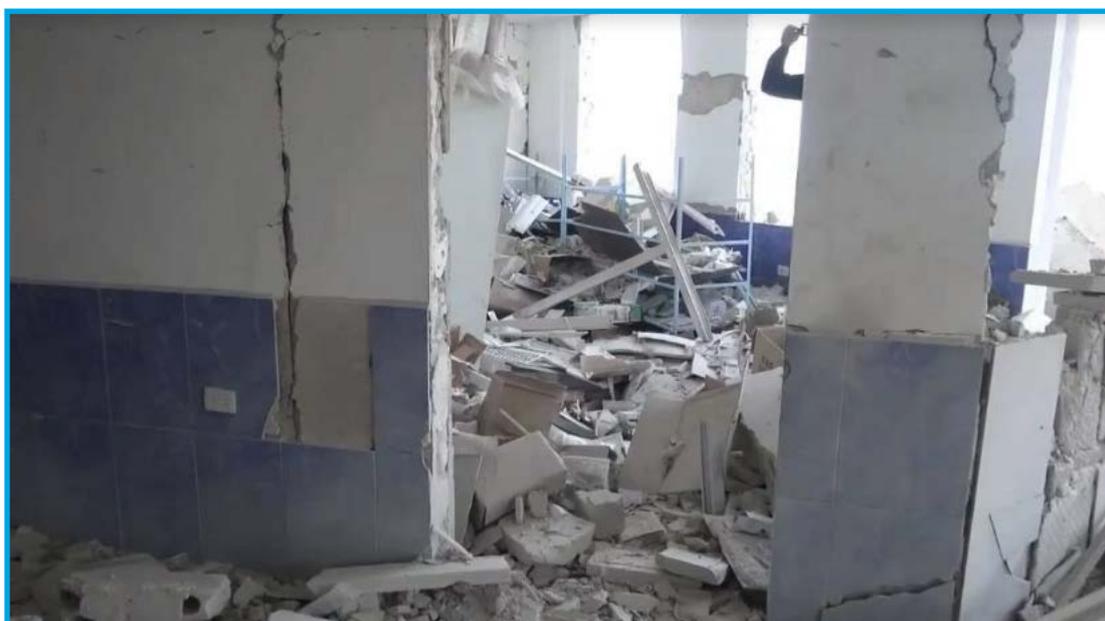


The destruction that resulted from fixed-wing warplanes we believe Russian bombing Wasim Hsinou Hospital in Kafr Takharim town, Idlib – April 25, 2017

Wednesday, April 26, 2017, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a number of missiles at al Latamena Surgical Hospital in [al Latamena town](#) in the northwestern suburbs of Hama governorate. The hospital building was partially destroyed, and its equipment were [moderately damaged](#). As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that the hospital was damaged after Syrian regime helicopters dropped a barrel bomb loaded with poison gases on it on Saturday, March 25, 2017. The town is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Thursday, April 27, 2017, around 05:10, [fixed-wing](#) warplanes we believe were Russian fired [four missiles](#) consecutively – roughly 10 minutes between each [missile](#) and the next- at the [Syrian University Hospital](#) in western al Deir al Sharqi village in the eastern suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#). This hospital is a [private hospital](#) that specializes in pediatrics and gynecology, which resulted in casualties. Additionally, the upper part of the [hospital building](#) was [heavily destroyed](#), and its equipment and furniture were [heavily damaged](#). As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that the same warplanes bombed the area again on the same day at approximately 12:47. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



The destruction that resulted from fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian bombing the Syrian University Hospital in al Deir al Sharqi village, Idlib – April 27, 2017

Thursday, April 27, 2017, around 13:40, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile near the [medical point](#) that is affiliated to Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM) in western al Bara village in Jabal al Zawiya, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The missile fell in a dirt land about 50 meters away from the medical point, with no damages recorded to its building. The town is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Thursday, April 27, 2017, around 07:20, [fixed-wing](#) warplanes we believe were Russian fired four missiles consecutively – roughly five minutes between each missile and the next – at a medical point affiliated to Shamuna [Emergency Network](#) in northwestern [Ma'ar Zita](#) village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The first missile fell in the garage and the fuel warehouses belonging to the point, which resulted in large fires. The second missile fell at the entrance of the point and killed four individuals, including three medical personnel, and [completely](#) burned seven ambulances. As a result, the point was rendered out of commission. The third and fourth missile fell in the vicinity of the point as the civil defense and medical teams were arriving. It should be noted that same warplanes bombed the vicinity of the point at approximately 12:40. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Fuel warehouses burning after a bombardment by fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian on a medical point in Ma'r Zita village, Idlib – April 27, 2017

Civil defense centers

Tuesday, April 4, 2017, around 13:00, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired [five missiles](#) at the civil defense center and [al Rahma Hospital](#), which are adjacent to each other, in Khan Sheikhoun city in the southern suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#). Some of the missile fell on the center, heavily destroying it and rendering it out of commission. Also, an [ambulance](#) and a [bulldozer](#) belonging to it were moderately damaged. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.



Tuesday, April 4, 2017, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile at the civil defense center in al Habit village in the southern suburbs of Idlib. The center building and its equipment were moderately damaged. As a result, the center was rendered out of commission. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Thursday afternoon, April 6, 2017, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile at the [civil defense center](#) in Taftanaz town in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate. One of the annex buildings were [heavily destroyed](#), and the center equipment and a [fire truck](#) belonging to the center were moderately damaged. As a result, the center was rendered out of commission. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Sunday, April 16, 2017, around 08:20, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian used incendiary weapons to target an area where a civil defense center and al Rahma Hospital are located in eastern Khan Sheikhoun city in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate. An [ambulance](#), [a service vehicle](#), and a fire truck belonging to the center were moderately damaged. Around 11:20 on the same day, the same warplanes bombed the area again using missiles. It should be noted that the center has been out of commission since Tuesday, April 4, 2017 after it was bombed with missiles. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Wednesday, April 26, 2017, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile near a service vehicle belonging to the civil defense in al Suhaqiya village, which follows al Janoudiya town, in the western suburbs of [Idlib governorate](#). The vehicle was slightly damaged. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

Thursday, April 27, 2017, around 07:40, fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian fired a missile near a fire truck- belonging to the civil defense center of Kafr Nobbol- in Ma'ar Zita village in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, as it was working to put out a fire that broke out in the medical point which was caused by a previous shelling by the same warplanes. The front parts of the truck structure were moderately damaged. The village is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.





The damages that resulted from fixed-wing warplanes we believe were Russian bombing a fire truck belonging to the civil defense in Ma'r Zita village, Idlib – April 27, 2017

Saturday, April 29, 2017, around 12:19, [fixed-wing](#) warplanes we believe were Russian fired two missiles at center 107, affiliated to the civil defense, in [Kafr Zita city](#) in the northern suburbs of [Hama governorate](#), which resulted in the killing of eight civil defense personnel. Additionally, the center building and its equipment were [heavily destroyed](#). As a result, the center was rendered out of commission. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

SNHR contacted Mahmoud abu Mohammad, head of the north sector of the civil defense in Hama governorate, via WhatsApp, who provided us with his account:

“On Saturday, April 29, around 12:11, some fixed-wing warplanes that we couldn’t determine if they were Syrian regime or Russian forces fired two missiles at the civil defense center which is located in northern Kafr Zita city. The civil defense consists of a building and cave under the ground. The civil defense members were hiding from the bombing inside the cave. The missiles entered the cave directly. When the bombing took place, I was in another building for the civil defense that is about 1.5 kilometers from the bombed site. I headed immediately to the civil defense team to the site to pull out the victims. When we arrived, I saw the cave had collapsed over whoever was inside. The destruction was huge. While we were removing rubbles and searching for victims, the warplanes came back about eight minutes later and carried out three consecutive airstrikes, where they used cluster bombs



in one of the airstrikes. These airstrikes killed one of the members of the emergency network in the city, who had just arrived at the targeted area to help us. Additionally, three vehicles were damaged to varying degrees. The continued bombing on the city hindered our work a few times. At night, we couldn't work on pulling out victims, because we were afraid the lights would make a bombing target. So, we resumed the search for victims on the morning of the next day. We pulled out eight victims from the civil defense from the rubble. Most of them were body parts. We identified all of them, but it was a difficult process.”

C. Armed opposition factions

Vital medical facilities

- Ambulances

Friday, April 28, 2017, an ambulance belonging to al Rahman Emergency Network was shot at from machine guns in Irbeen city in northeastern Damascus suburbs governorate during the clashes between Jaish al Islam -an armed opposition faction, on one side, and Hay'et Tahrir al Sham and Failaq al Rahman – an armed opposition faction, on the other side, while the ambulance staff were tending to the wounded, which resulted in the killing of a paramedic. Additionally, the ambulance was slightly damaged. As of this writing, we haven't been able to identify the group that shot the ambulance. The city is under the control of armed opposition factions.

D. Other parties

Vital medical facilities

- Ambulances

Saturday, April 29, 2017, an explosive device detonated near an ambulance belonging to Hay'et Tahrir al Sham as it was passing through al Thalathin Street in western [Idlib city](#), which resulted in casualties. Additionally, the ambulance structure was moderately damaged. As of this writing, we haven't been able to identify the group that planted the device. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.

International humanitarian insignia

- Red Crescent

Thursday, April 13, 2017, a motorcycle bomb detonated in the yard of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) center “formerly Carlton Hotel” in southern [Idlib city](#). Two ambulances belonging to SARC were [heavily damaged](#) and rendered out of commission. We didn't record any damages to the center. As of this writing, we haven't been able to identify the group behind the bombing. The city is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh al Sham Front.





The damages that resulted from a motorcycle bomb of unknown source that exploded near an ambulance belonging to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in Idlib city, April 13, 2017

IV. Conclusions and Recommendation

Legal conclusions

1- The incidents mentioned in this report are considered, beyond any doubt, violations of Security Council Resolutions 2139 and 2254 which both state that indiscriminate attacks must be halted. Also, these incidents are violations of Article 8 of Rome Statute through the act of willful killing which constitutes war crimes.

2- We can confirm that most of the incidents included in this report have targeted armless civilians. Therefore, Syrian regime forces have violated the rules of the international human rights law which guarantee the right to life. Additionally, these violations were perpetrated in a non-international armed conflict which amount to a war crime where all elements were fulfilled.

Also, Russian forces, armed opposition factions, Self-Management forces, and other parties (which includes parties that we weren't able to identify as well as Turkish, Lebanese, and Jordanian forces) have committed acts that amount to war crimes through the crime of extrajudicial killing or targeting vital civilian facilities.

3- The attacks mentioned in this report are considered a violation of the customary international law as the shells were fired at populated areas rather than a specific military object.

4- Aerial bombardment has caused collateral damages that involved loss of lives, injuries, and significant damages to civil facilities. There are strong indicators suggesting that the damage was too excessive compared to the anticipated military benefit.



Recommendations

The Security Council

- The Security Council has to take additional steps as it has been more than two years since Resolution 2139 was adopted and no pledges to cease the indiscriminate bombardment operations have been made. All the conflict parties must respect these steps and adhere to the rules of the international humanitarian law.
- The Syrian case must be referred to the International Criminal Court and all those who are responsible must be held accountable including the Russian regime whose involvement in committing war crimes have been proven.
- Instill security and peace in Syria and implement the norm of the Responsibility to Protect in order to protect the lives, culture, and history of the Syrian people from being destroyed, stolen, and ruined.
- Expand the sanctions to include the Syrian and Iranian regimes and all of their pillars who are directly involved in committing crimes against humanity and war crimes against the Syrian people.

The International Community

- In light of the split of the Security Council and its utter inability, Steps must be taken on the national and regional levels to form alliances to support the Syrian people that would protect them from the daily killings and siege and enhance the support for the relief efforts. Additionally, the principle of universal jurisdiction must be activated 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 tens 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 were drought out. Therefore, steps under Article 7 of the Rome Statute must be taken and the norm of the Responsibility to Protect, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly, must be implemented. The Security Council is still hindering the protection of civilians in Syria.
- Renew the 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 work on utilizing the principle of the universal jurisdiction.



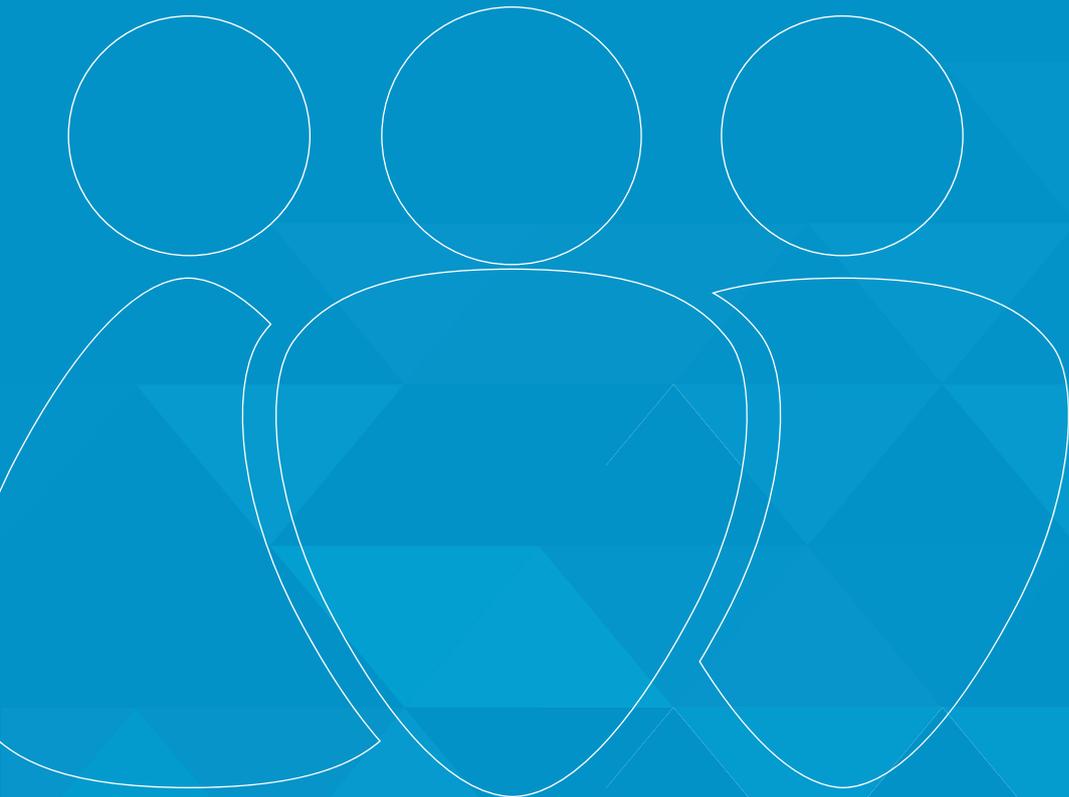
Medical organizations around the world

There is a severe shortage in medical manpower in Syria because of the ceaseless killing of medical personnel. Firstly, Syrian doctors must come back to Syria to compensate for the severe shortage in medical personnel. Also, international organizations can send volunteers to safe areas where wounded are sent for treatment. We have recorded many cases where wounded died due to lack of medical resources.

Acknowledgment and Condolences

Our most sincere thanks go to the victims' families and friends and to the local activists who contributed majorly to this report.





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