



Seven Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Killed 56 Incidents of Attack on Vital Medical and Civil Defense and Red Crescent Facilities in November 2016

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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 government 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 government forces since 2011, and the killing and arrest of medics and civil defense personnel at the hands of different conflict parties, especially government forces, indicates a systematic policy that only aims to shed more blood and deepen the suffering of the injured – civilians and armed.

Fadel Abdul Ghani, 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 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

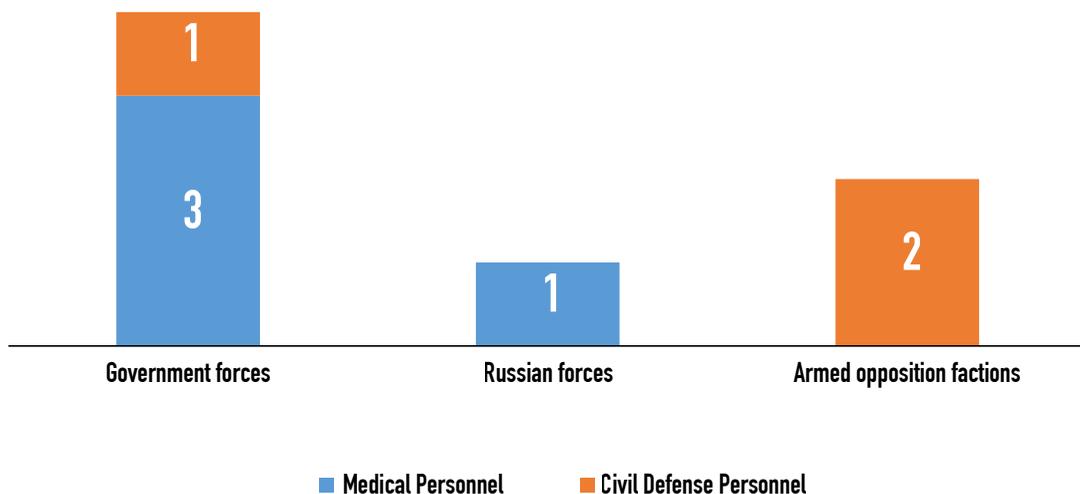
SNHR documented in the month of November 2016 the following main violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities:

A. Extrajudicial killing

We documented the killing of seven medical and civil defense personnel as follows:

- Government forces (Army, security, local militias, foreign Shiite militias): killed seven medical and civil defense personnel distributed as follows:
 - Two paramedics
 - One medical personnel
 - One civil defense personnel
- Russian forces: killed one medical staffer
- Armed opposition factions: killed two civil defense members

Victims from medical and civil defense personnel are distributed by the influential party as follows:





B. Targeting of vital medical and civil defense facilities

SNHR documented 56 incidents of attack on vital medical and civil defense facilities as follows:

- Government forces (Army, security, local militias, foreign Shiite militias): we recorded 32 incidents of attack on vital medical and civil defense facilities as follows:

- 13 Medical centers
- Four ambulances
- 15 civil defense centers

- Russian forces: we recorded 19 incidents of attacks on vital medical facilities as follows:

- Nine medical facilities
- Nine ambulances
- One civil defense center

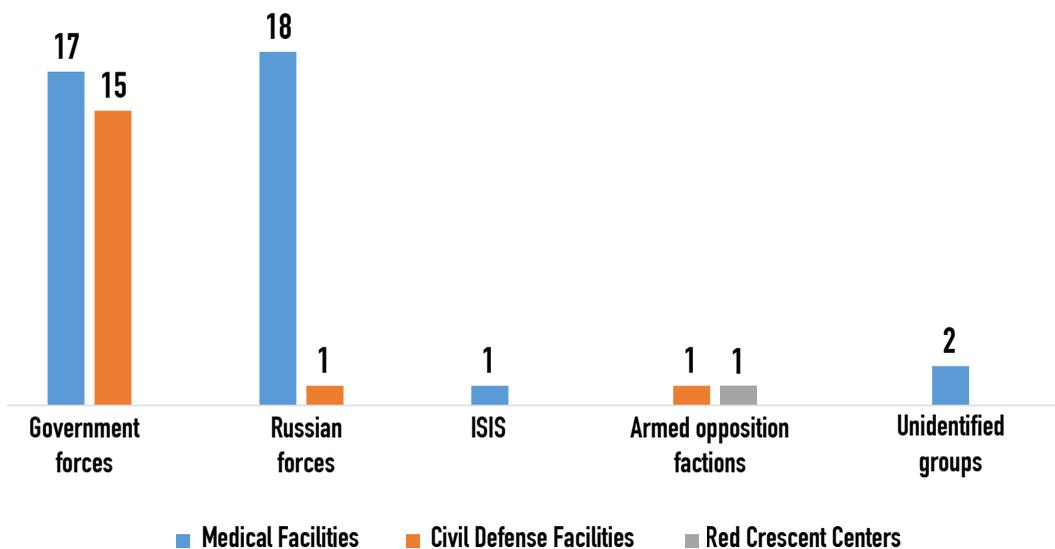
- Extremist Islamic groups:

ISIS (Self-proclaimed the Islamic State): one incident of attack on a medical facility

- Armed opposition factions: Two incidents of attack, on a civil defense center and a vital center for the Red Crescent

- Unidentified groups: two incidents of attack on two ambulances

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





III. Details

A. Extrajudicial killing

1- Government Forces

Abu Bashar (his name has not been acquired) a medical staffer in the Martyr Dr. Ziad Al Beqaa'ie hospital, from Jdaedit Artouz town in Damascus suburbs governorate, 36-year-old, works as a technician where he maintains medical machines in the hospital. He was killed on Wednesday 2 November 2016 in a shelling by a government forces rocket launcher that fired a (Feil) rocket which fell near the Martyr Dr. Ziad Al Beqaa'ie hospital in Khan Al Sheih town in Western Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate.

Eyad Tina, director of the civil defense center in Jayroud city in Damascus suburbs governorate, from Al Atna village in Damascus suburbs governorate. He died on Sunday 13 November 2016 due to not receiving the necessary treatment for the renal failure he suffers from in light of the siege imposed by government forces on Jayroud city.

Khaldoun Aryan, paramedic, from Aleppo city, born in 1980, works with the Medicine and Emergency Network in Aleppo, has an intermediate education certificate, married and a father of four. He was killed on Wednesday 16 November 2016 by government forces helicopters that dropped a barrel bomb on Al Sha'ar neighborhood in Aleppo.



[Hussein Al Sayed Mahmoud](#), paramedic, from Douma city in Damascus suburbs governorate, works with Sham Aiding Network. [He](#) died on 25 November 2016 of wounds sustained in a government forces artillery shelling on Douma city on Saturday 19 November 2016.

2- Russian forces

[Emad Mohammad Zaitoun](#), drives an ambulance belonging to Baghdad makeshift hospital, from Anadan city in northern Aleppo governorate, born in 1973, has an intermediate education certificate, married and a father of four. He was killed on Monday 14 November 2016 by warplanes we believe are Russian that targeted Baghdad makeshift hospital using missiles in Owaijel village in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate.





3- Armed opposition factions

[Mohammad Hajjar](#), a member of the rescue team that is affiliated with the civil defense team in Al Bab city, from Al Bab city in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate, born in 1988, married. He was killed on Wednesday 30 November 2016 in a shelling by the artillery of Der' Al Furat forces, supported by Turkish forces, which targeted Al Bab city, located in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of ISIS.

[Mohammad AbdulQader Abu Kasha](#), a member of the rescue team that is affiliated with the civil defense team in Al Bab city, from Al Bab city in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate, born in 1988, married. He was killed on Wednesday 30 November 2016 in a shelling by the artillery of Der' Al Furat forces, supported by Turkish forces, which targeted Al Bab city, located in the eastern suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of ISIS.

B. Targeting of vital medical and civil defense facilities and Red Crescent facilities

1- Government forces

Medical facilities

Medical centers (Hospitals, dispensaries, medical regions, and makeshift hospitals)

Wednesday 2 November 2016, government forces rocket launchers fired a (Feil) rocket that fell in the areas near the Martyr Dr. Ziad Al Beqaa'ie hospital in Khan Al Sheih town in Western Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate which resulted in the killing of a medical staffer while one another was injured. In addition, the hospital building was heavily destroyed.

Monday 7 November 2016, government forces artillery targeted the health care center, which is affiliated to the Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM), using mortar and Gvozdika shells in Al Za'frana town, located in the suburbs of Homs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The center was moderately [damaged](#) and was temporarily rendered out of commission.





Friday 11 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a number of barrel [bombs](#) on Kafr Zita specialized [hospitals](#) in Kaft Zita city, located in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The [hospital](#) building was partially [destroyed](#). As a result, the [hospital](#) was rendered out of commission.

Tuesday 15 November 2016, government forces rocket launchers fired a (Feil) rocket on the medical clinics center in Al Wa'ir neighborhood, located in Homs city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The center building was partially destroyed and its equipment was moderately damaged. As a result, the center was rendered out of commission.

Wednesday 16 November 2016, around 10:00, government forces helicopters [dropped](#) a barrel bomb near [Al Bayan surgical hospital](#) in [Al Sha'ar neighborhood](#), located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The surgery room and its equipment and cladding materials were heavily [damaged](#).



Friday 18 November 2016, rocket launchers stationed at Al Nayrab military airbase fired a number of rockets on Omar ben Abd Al Aziz makeshift hospital in Al Ma'adi neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The healing and patient rooms were partially destroyed. In addition, the hospital equipment was [heavily damaged](#).





Friday 18 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a number of barrel bombs on Al Bayan surgical hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The aid and surgery section as well as the [hospital](#) entrance were [heavily damaged](#).

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 24) fired missiles that targeted Al Rahma hospital in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The hospital building was slightly damaged.

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government/Russian (Investigations are still ongoing to determine the perpetrator party accurately) forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted the health center in Taybat Al Emam city, located in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The center fence was heavily destroyed and the building and its equipment were [heavily damaged](#). As a result, the center was rendered out of commission.

Monday morning 21 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near Al Bayan surgical hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The hospital building and its cladding materials as well as the equipment were heavily damaged. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that this was the third attack made on [Al Bayan hospital](#) in November.

Thursday 24 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped barrel bombs near the medical point in Al Taman'a town, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The point building and equipment were moderately damaged.

Friday noon 25 November 2016, government forces rocket launchers stationed at Al Nayrab military airbase fired a number of rockets near Al Zahra Women's hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The hospital pharmacy was partially [destroyed](#) and the building and furniture were moderately [damaged](#).





Tuesday 29 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb on the vicinity of Al Zarzour surgical hospital in Al Ansari neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The hospital building was slightly damaged.

Ambulances

Tuesday 25 October 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes carried out an airstrike with missiles near an ambulance belonging to [Shamona Medical Network](#) in Souran city, located in the northern suburbs of Hama governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The [ambulance](#) structure was heavily damaged and the glass windows were shattered. The ambulance was rendered out of commission. On 2 November 2016, we were able to contact activists from the area who confirmed [the incident](#).

Wednesday 16 November 2016, around 10:00 AM, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near Al Bayan surgical hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The [ambulance](#) structure and its equipment were moderately damaged.





Saturday 19 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired a missile near an ambulance belonging to Al Marj makeshift hospital in Jisreen town, located in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure was [moderately damaged](#).

Tuesday noon 29 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a [barrel bomb](#) in the vicinity of [Al Zarzour surgical hospital](#) in Al Ansari neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The structure and equipment of an ambulance belonging to the hospital were moderately [damaged](#).



Civil defense centers (Vehicles and facilities)

Monday 14 November 2016, around 1:00 AM, fixed-wing government/Russian (Investigations are still ongoing to determine the perpetrator party precisely) forces warplanes carried out two airstrikes with missiles targeting [the civil defense center](#) in Khan Al Sheih camp for Palestinian refugees, located in Western Ghouta in Damascus suburbs and is under the control of armed opposition factions. Three civil defense members were wounded. In addition, the center [building](#) and its [furniture](#) were heavily [destroyed](#). As a result, [the center](#) was rendered [out of commission](#).





Friday 18 November 2016, government forces artillery fired a number of shells that fell near an ambulance belonging to the civil defense in Jisreen town, located in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition faction, as the ambulance was attending to wounded who fell in a previous shelling. [The ambulance structure](#) was moderately [damaged](#).



Friday 18 November 2016, government forces artillery fired a number of shells that fell near a service vehicle belonging to the civil defense center in Jisreen town, located in Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition faction, as the ambulance was attending to wounded who fell in a previous [shelling](#). The ambulance structure was moderately [damaged](#).

Friday evening 18 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near the civil defense center in Bab Al Nayrab neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The structure of an ambulance belonging to the [center](#) was heavily damaged. As a result, it was rendered out of commission.

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 24) fired missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The center building and equipment were moderately damaged.





Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 24) fired missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The frontal glass windows of a service vehicle belonging to [the center was shattered](#).

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 24) fired missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The frontal glass windows of an ambulance belonging to [the civil defense center](#) in Hish town in the suburbs of Idlib governorate was shattered.

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes (Sukhoi 24) fired missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The frontal glass windows of an ambulance belonging to [the civil defense center](#) Al Taman'a town was shattered.

Sunday morning 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired two missiles that targeted [the civil defense center](#) in Urm Al Kubra town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. [The center](#) roof and walls were partially destroyed. Additionally, the center equipment was [heavily damaged](#). As a result, [the center](#) was rendered out of commission.





Sunday morning 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired two missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Urm Al Kubra town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The structure of a crane belonging to [the center](#) was partially destroyed. As a result, it was rendered out of commission.

Sunday morning 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired two missiles that targeted the civil defense center in Urm Al Kubra town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. An ambulance belonging to the center was [heavily destroyed](#).

Sunday 20 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles that targeted a residential house in the vicinity of the civil defense center in the northwestern neighborhood of Kafr Nobbol city, located in the suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. We didn't record any damages to the building where the missiles fell within a 100-meter radius of the center.

Monday 21 November 2016, fixed-wing government forces warplanes fired missiles near an ambulance belonging to center 90 which is affiliated to [the civil defense center](#) in Harasta city, located in the Eastern Ghouta in Damascus suburbs governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure was moderately [damaged](#). As a result, it was rendered out of commission.

Sunday afternoon 20 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near Hanano which is affiliated with the civil defense center in Al Sakhour neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The center building and furniture were heavily damaged. As a result, the center was rendered out of commission.

Thursday 24 November 2016, government forces helicopters dropped barrel bombs near the medical point in Al Taman'a town, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The structure of an ambulance belonging to the civil defense center of Al Taman'a town was moderately [damaged](#).





B. Russian forces

Medical facilities

Medical centers (Hospitals, dispensaries, medical regions, and makeshift hospitals)
Thursday 10 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles near Al Ihsan hospital in the western suburbs of Saraqeb city, located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate. The hospital building was slightly damaged.

Friday afternoon 11 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Ansar National hospital, known as Biouti hospital, in Kafr Naha town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The hospital building was heavily destroyed and some of its section were rendered out of commission. It is worth noting that the hospital was targeted in a previous bombing on 8 May 2016.

Sunday 13 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles [that targeted the Islamic Medical Complex](#) in Binnish city, located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The surgery wing was [heavily destroyed](#) and the other wings and equipment were [heavily damaged](#). As a result, [the complex](#) was rendered [out of commission](#).

Monday noon 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted [Ansar National hospital](#), known as Biouti hospital, in Kafr Naha town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. A part of [the hospital building](#) was destroyed [almost completely while a fire broke](#) out in the other part. In addition, the hospital equipment was heavily damaged. As a result, [the hospital](#) was rendered out of commission. It should be noted that [the hospital](#) was [targeted](#) by fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian on Friday 11 November 2016.





Monday noon 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Al Atareb makeshift hospital in Al Atareb city, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. [The hospital building](#) was heavily [destroyed](#) and the equipment were heavily damaged. As a result, the hospital [was rendered out of commission](#). It should be noted that [the hospital](#) was [bombed](#) previously by [the same party](#) on 24 July 2016.



Monday evening 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired [missiles](#) that [targeted Baghdad](#) makeshift [hospital](#) in Owaijel village, located in the [western suburbs](#) of [Aleppo](#) governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. [the hospital building](#) and [equipment](#) were [destroyed](#) almost completely. As a result, [the hospital](#) was rendered [out of commission](#).





Image of the destruction resulted from suspected Russian fixed-wing warplanes fired missiles on Baghdad Hospital in Owajjel village in Aleppo governorate western suburbs, 14 November 2016 by Ahmad Al Ahmad © SNHR



Image of the destruction resulted from suspected Russian fixed-wing warplanes fired missiles on Baghdad Hospital in Owajjel village in Aleppo governorate western suburbs, 14 November 2016 by Ahmad Al Ahmad © SNHR

Friday morning 18 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Al Hakim Children's Hospital in Al Sha'ar neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. the incubator section in the hospital was heavily damaged and the hospital pharmacy was partially destroyed.





Friday 25 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the Children's and Women's hospital, known as Al Re'aya M30, in Termanein town, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The hospital building and its cladding materials were heavily destroyed. In addition, the equipment and furniture were heavily damaged. It should be noted that the hospital was previously bombed by fixed-wing government forces warplanes on 27 October 2016.



We believe that this incident does not constitute a violation of the international humanitarian law given that the [target](#) was a [military checkpoint](#). We included it in the report, however, to record it as one of the incidents that resulted a loss in lives and damages to a [vital civil facility](#) even though it is within the boundaries the international humanitarian law allows for.

Tuesday 29 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles near Al Rahma surgical hospital in Khan Shaikhoun city, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front, which resulted in a fire breaking out in the fuel tank and the hospital's generator. Additionally, the internet devices that were installed in front of the hospital were damaged. It should be noted that fixed-wing government forces warplanes targeted the hospital using missiles on Sunday 20 November 2016.





Ambulances

Friday morning 4 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles near an ambulance belonging to the Aid and Emergency Network in Manyan area in western Aleppo, the area is under the joint control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure and some of its equipment were moderately damaged. It was temporarily rendered out of commission.

Sunday 13 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the [Islamic Medical Complex](#) in Binnesh city, located in the northern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. Two ambulances belonging to the hospital were heavily destroyed. As a result, the [ambulances](#) were rendered [out of commission](#).

Monday 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Ansar National hospital, known as Biouti hospital, in Kafr Naha town, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure was heavily destroyed. As a result, it was rendered out of commission.



Monday noon 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Al Atareb makeshift hospital in Al Atareb city, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The structure of an ambulance belonging to the hospital was moderately damaged and its glass windows were shattered. As a result, [the ambulance](#) was rendered [out of commission](#).

Monday evening 14 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted Baghdad makeshift hospital in Owaijel village, located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions.



Image of the destruction resulted from suspected Russian fixed-wing warplanes fired missiles on Baghdad Hospital in Owaijel village in Aleppo governorate western suburbs, 14 November 2016. by Ahmad Al Ahmad © SN4HR





An ambulance belonging to the hospital was heavily destroyed. As a result, the ambulance was rendered out of commission.

Thursday afternoon 17 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles near an ambulance belonging to the Charity Aid Network – the Martyr Mosab team in Masaken Hananou neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure was heavily destroyed. As a result, it was rendered out of commission.



Friday 25 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the Children's and Women's hospital, known as Al Re'aya M30, in Termanein town, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate and is under the joint control of armed opposition factions and Fateh Al Sham Front. The structure of an ambulance belonging to the hospital was heavily destroyed. As a result, the hospital was rendered out of commission.

We believe that this [incident](#) does not constitute a violation of the international humanitarian law given that the target was a military checkpoint. We included it in the report, however, to record it as one of the incidents that resulted a loss in lives and [damages](#) to a vital civil facility even though it is within the boundaries the international humanitarian law allows for.

Sunday dawn 27 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted an ambulance belonging to the Medical Aid Network that operates in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate in Qebtan Al Jabal town, located in the northwestern suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. The ambulance structure was heavily destroyed. As a result, the ambulance was [rendered out of commission](#).





Civil defense centers

Sunday noon 13 November 2016, fixed-wing warplanes we believe are Russian fired missiles that targeted the training center that is affiliated [to the civil defense](#) in [Al Atareb city](#), located in the western suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of armed opposition factions. [The center building](#) as well as its fence and furniture were [heavily destroyed](#). As a result, [the center was rendered out of commission](#).



3- Extremist Islamic groups

ISIS

Medical facilities

Medical centers (Hospitals, dispensaries, medical regions, and makeshift hospitals)

Wednesday 16 November 2016, ISIS raided a makeshift [hospital](#) that is affiliated to Doctor Without Borders organization in Al Kasra town, located in the western suburbs of Deir Ez-Zour and is under the control of ISIS, and confiscated the medical equipment and machines inside the hospital and stopped the medical staff and the hospital from operating.

4- Armed opposition factions

Civil defense centers (Facilities and vehicles)

Wednesday 30 November 2016, Der' Al Furat artillery, supported by Turkish forces, fired a number of shells on a vehicle belonging to the civil defense center in Al Bab city, located in the suburbs of Aleppo governorate and is under the control of ISIS, which resulted in the killing of two civil defense personnel. In addition, the structure of the vehicle was destroyed, and it was rendered out of commission.





Red Crescent (Vehicles and facilities)

Monday morning 21 November 2016, a number of locally-made rocket shells fell near an ambulance belonging to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in Al Azizia neighborhood, located in Aleppo city and is under the control of government forces. The shells were fired from an artillery that is stationed in one of Old Aleppo neighborhoods, which is under the control of armed opposition factions. Two of the ambulance staff were wounded, and the [ambulance](#) structure [was moderately damaged](#).



5- Unidentified groups

Medical centers

Ambulances

Tuesday 29 November 2016, a masked group of four armed men raided a medical center that is affiliated to Hama Aid Network in Al Sheikh Mustafa town, located in the southern suburbs of Idlib governorate, and threatened the guards before stealing two ambulance and two evacuation vehicles. One of the evacuation vehicles was found later while the whereabouts of the rest of the vehicles are still unknown.

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, government forces and Russian 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.





Additionally, ISIS and armed opposition factions carried out acts that amount to war crimes through the crime of extrajudicial killing and targeting of vital civil centers.

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, looted, 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

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

