

Statement

Most Notable Violations of Human Rights in January 2018

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Saturday, February 10, 2018

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



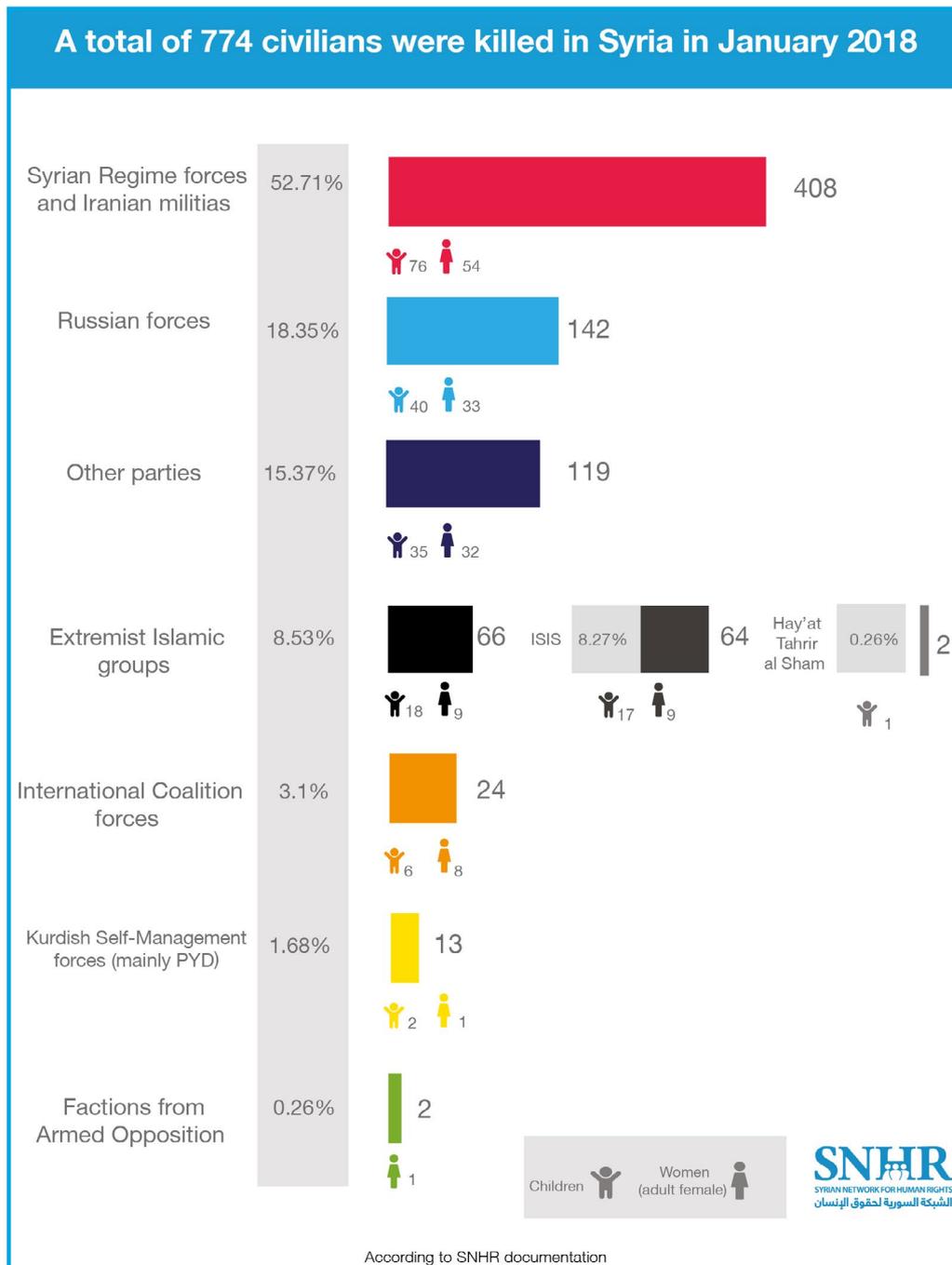
As usual with the start of every month, SNHR released eight reports at the start of February 2018, documenting the most notable violations that were perpetrated by the seven main parties to the conflict in Syria in January 2018 - civilian death toll, deaths due to torture, most notable violations against media activists, toll of arbitrary arrests, most notable violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities, most notable massacres, barrel bombs use, and most notable incidents of attack on vital civilian facilities.

These monthly reports try also to assess the impact the de-escalation agreements, such as Ankara and Astana, had, in addition to the local agreements, and their success in ceasing violations.

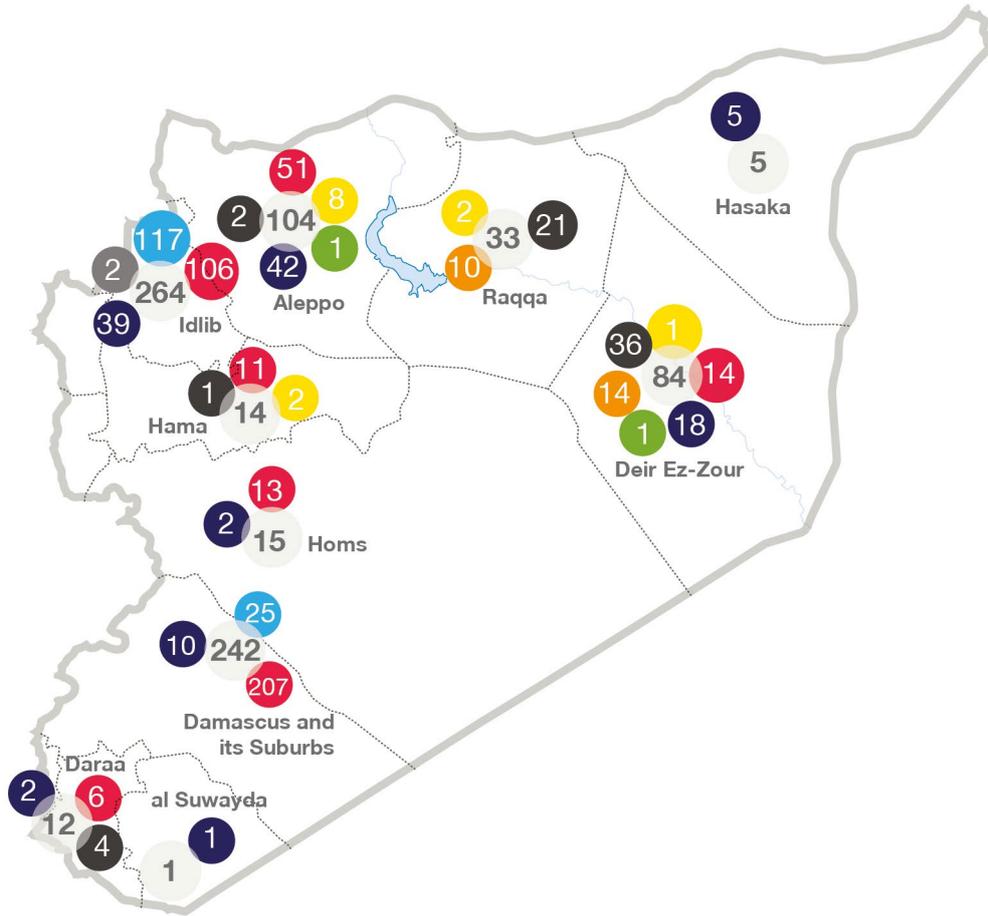
These reports draw upon the daily documentation efforts during January, where SNHR, through its scattered members throughout the Syrian region, monitors violations by all of the parties to the conflict, and publishes most notable news, before releasing a preliminary death toll at the end of each day. For more information, please see [our documentation and archiving methodology](#).



The report entitled: [“774 Civilians Killed in January 2018”](#) outlines January’s civilian death toll by the parties to the conflict, as Syrian-Russian alliance forces trumped all parties by killing 550 civilians. The report also documents a rise in civilian deaths in the governorates of Idlib and Aleppo, as well as Eastern Ghouta, which are considered de-escalation zones, in light of the vicious offensive by these forces. Idlib governorate recorded the most civilian deaths with 264 civilians, followed by Damascus suburbs, 242, and then Aleppo with 104.



A total of 774 civilians were killed in Syria in January 2018



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According to SNHR documentation

Syrian Regime Forces and Iranian Militias

Russian Forces

Kurdish Self-Management Forces (mainly PYD)

ISIS
Extremist Islamic Groups

Hay'at Tahrir al Sham

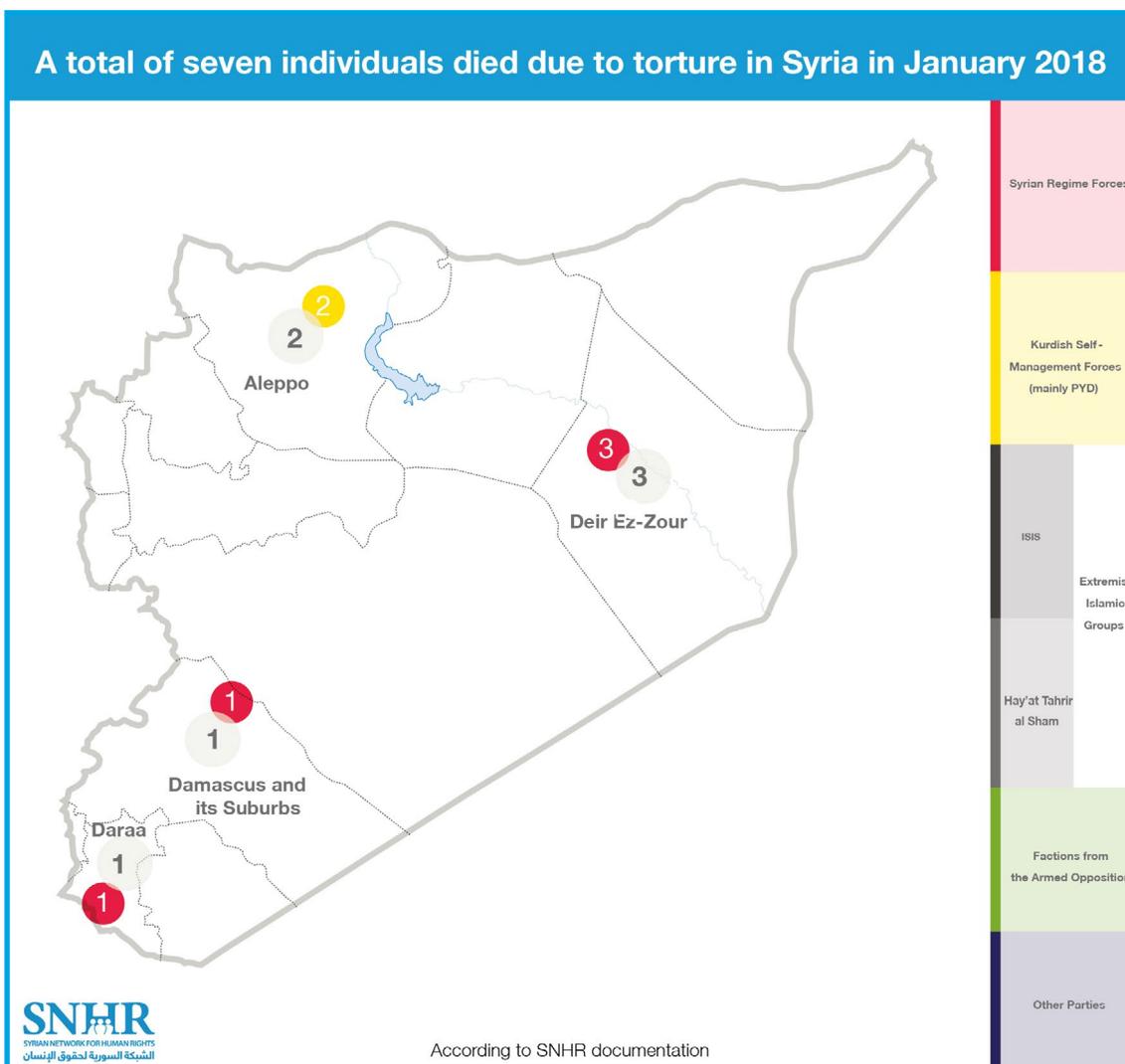
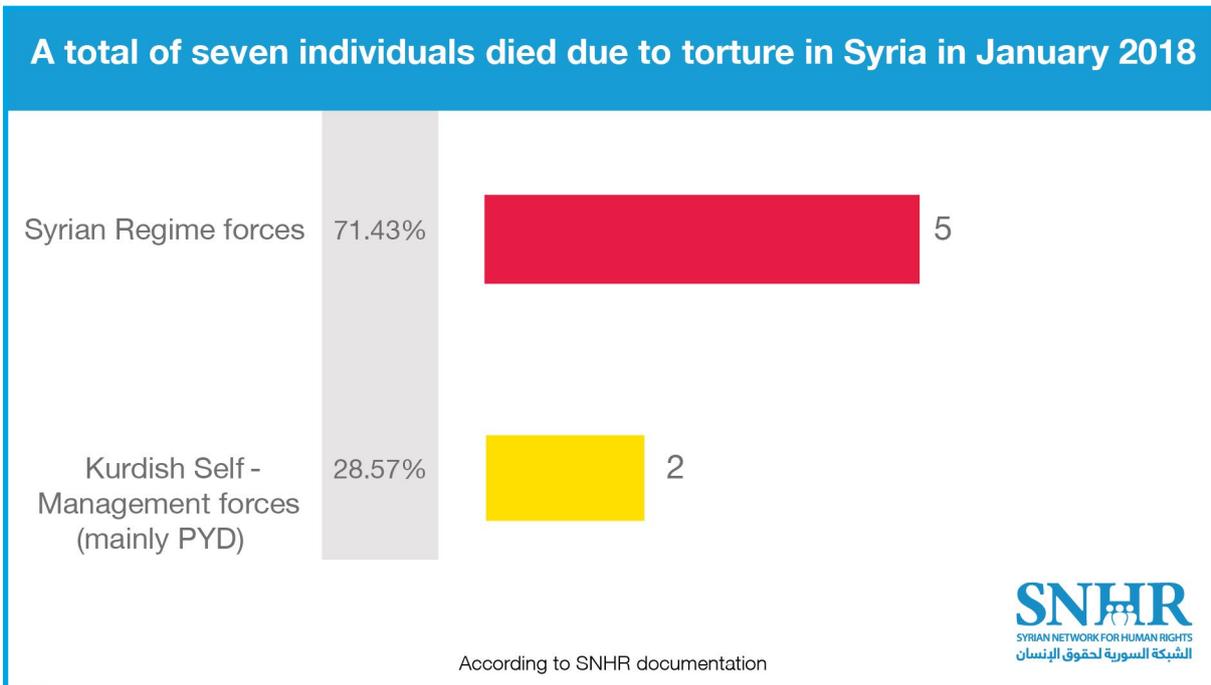
Factions from Armed Opposition

International Coalition Forces

Other Parties

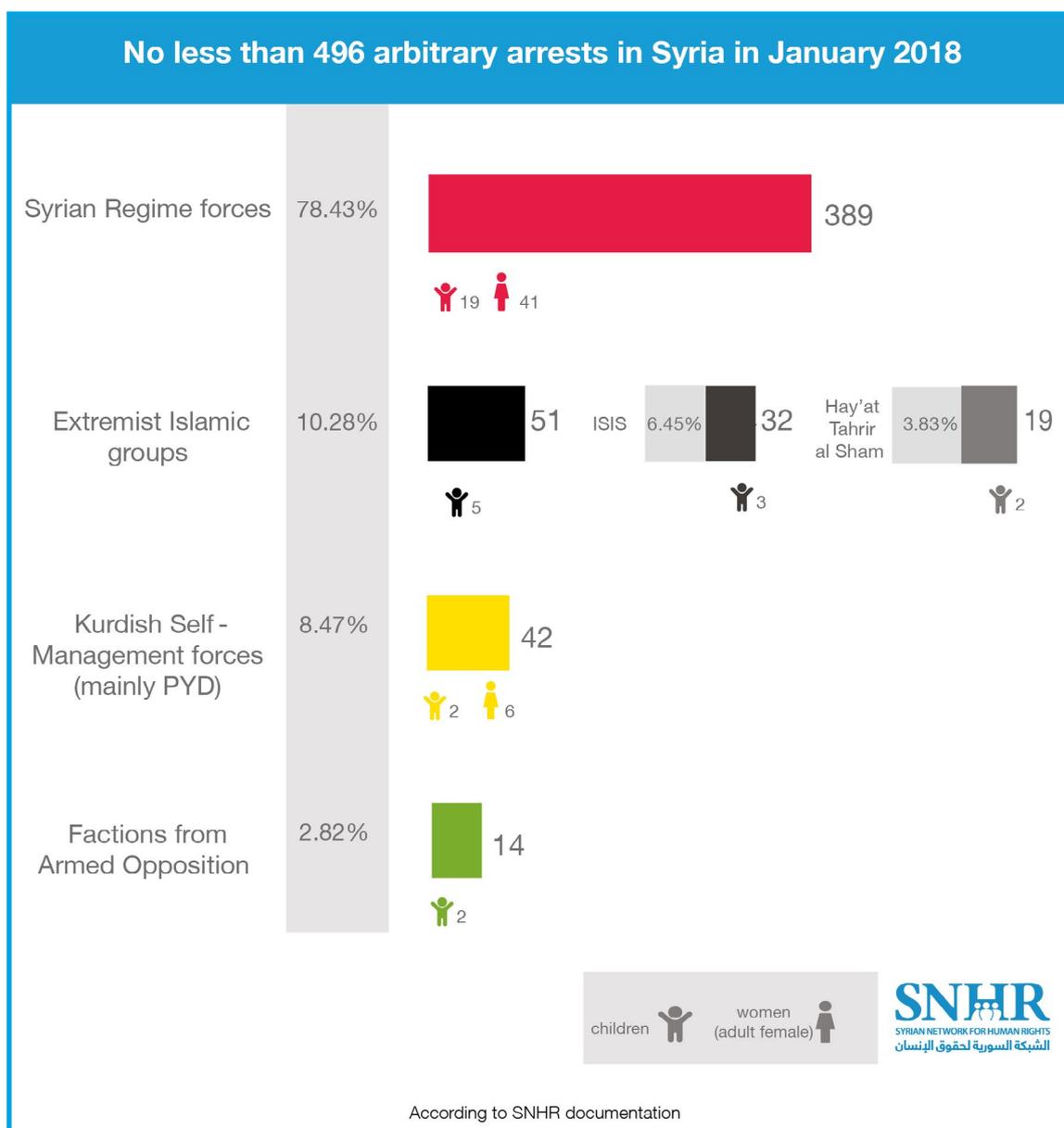


According to the report [“Seven Individuals Died due to Torture in Syria in January 2018”](#), five individuals died due to torture at the hands of Syrian regime forces, while Self-Management forces were responsible for two deaths.

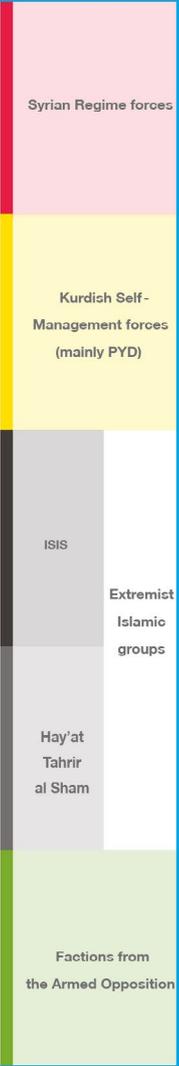
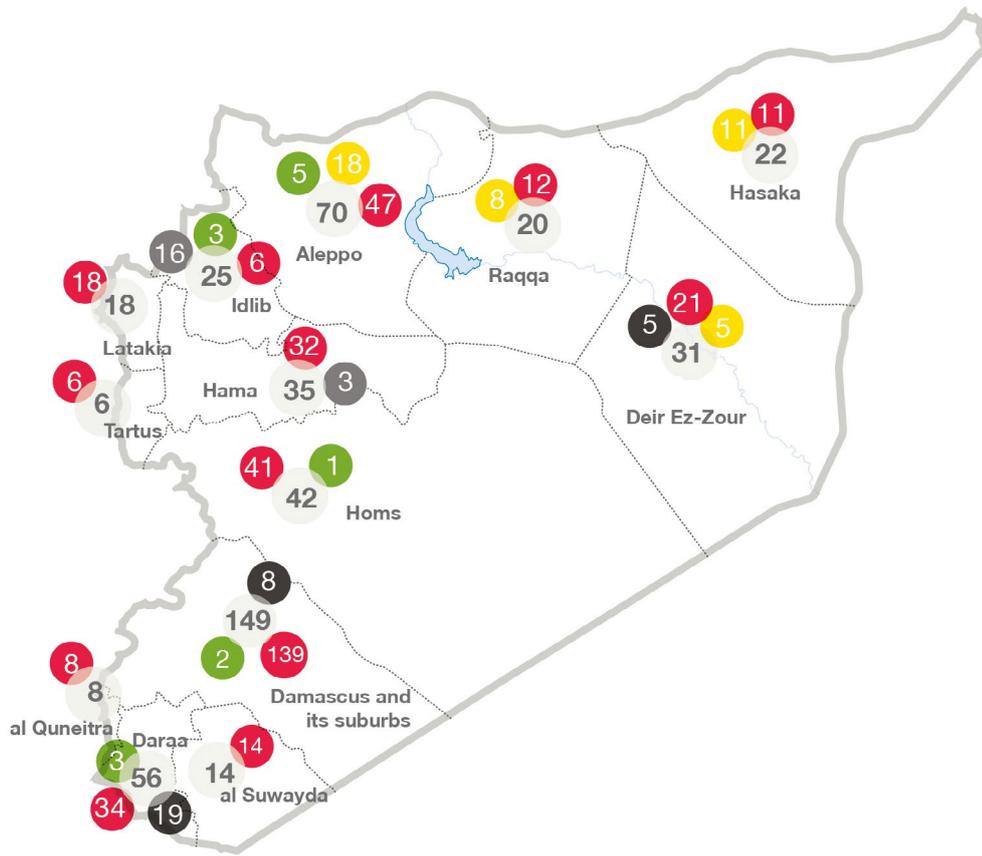


The report [“One Media Activist Killed and Nine Injured, Toll of January 2018”](#) documents that four of the ten violations that were documented this month were at the hands of Syrian regime forces who was the only party that committed the crime of murder against media workers, as media activist Hazem Abdul Aziz al Wahed was killed in Saqba city, Eastern Ghouta. On the other hand, six media workers were injured in Russian forces’ attacks – all in Idlib governorate.

The report [“No less than 496 Cases of Arbitrary Arrest in January 2018”](#) stresses that cases of arbitrary arrest for the purpose of recruitment by Syrian regime forces and Self-Management forces saw a rise compared to 2017, where more than 70% of all cases of arbitrary arrest in January were for the purpose of recruitment. In addition, ISIS continued their arrests and raids against civilians in their areas of control. Most of the arrests by the group were for the purpose of conscription – especially in the areas the group controls in Deir Ez-Zour governorate.



No less than 496 arbitrary arrests in Syria in January 2018

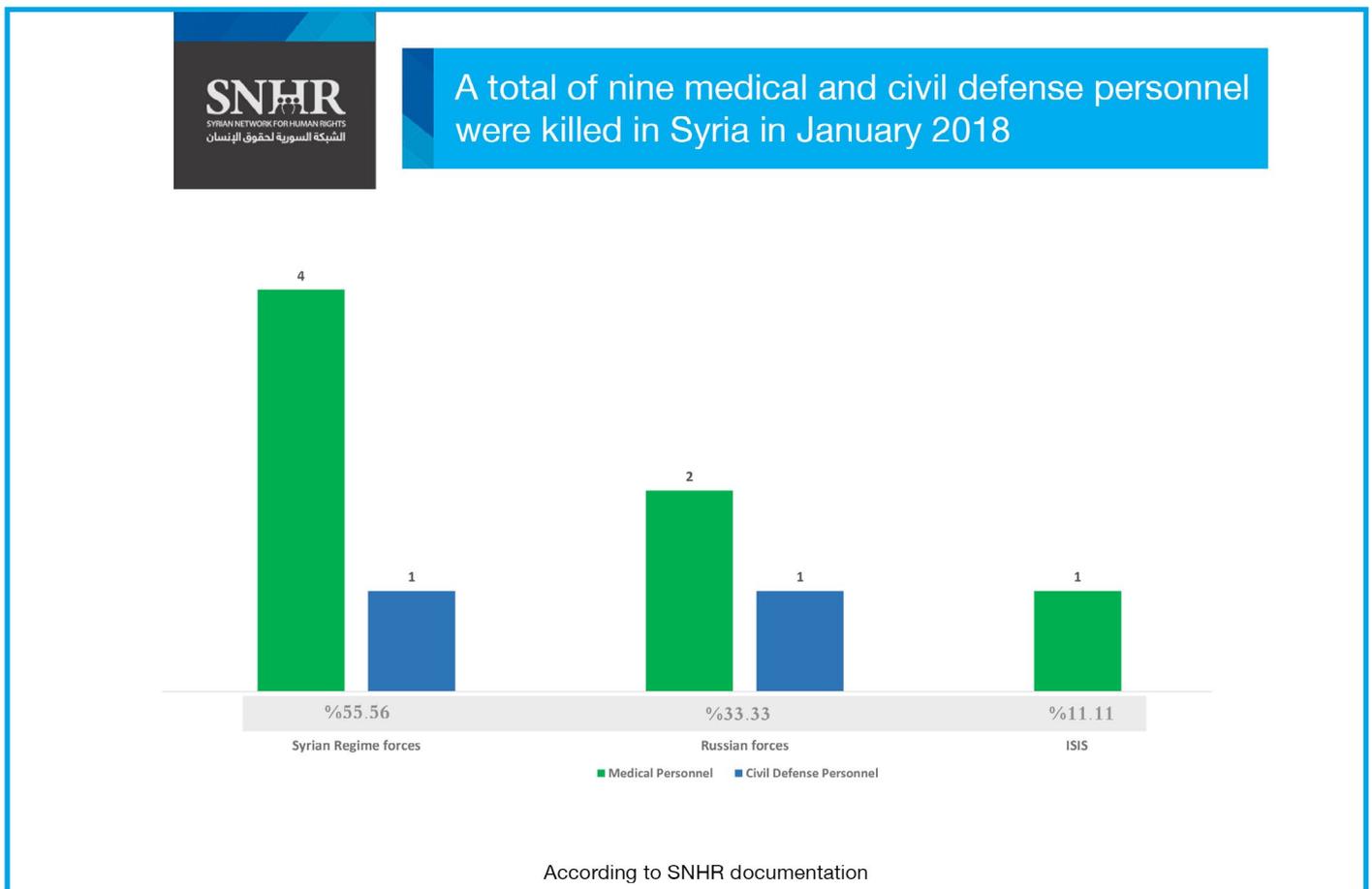


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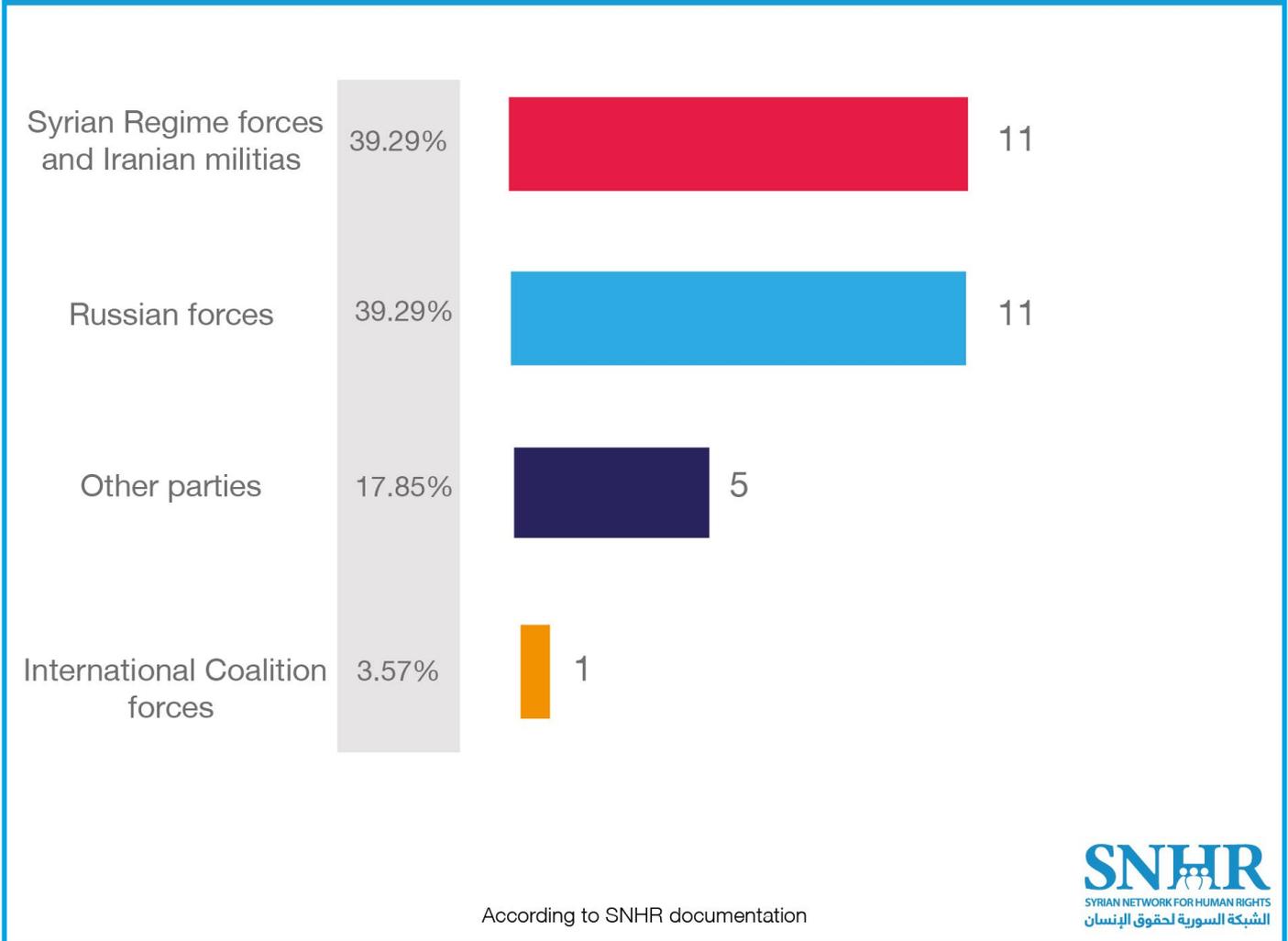


The report [“Nine Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Killed, and 45 Attacks on Their Facilities in January 2018”](#) records the most notable violations against the health sector in January 2018, as Syrian-Russian alliance forces killed eight individuals who worked in the health sector. According to the report, seven of the victims were medical personnel. Syrian-Russian alliance forces were responsible for the majority of attacks on vital medical facilities and civil defense facilities, carrying out 36 attacks, including 16 attacks on medical facilities.

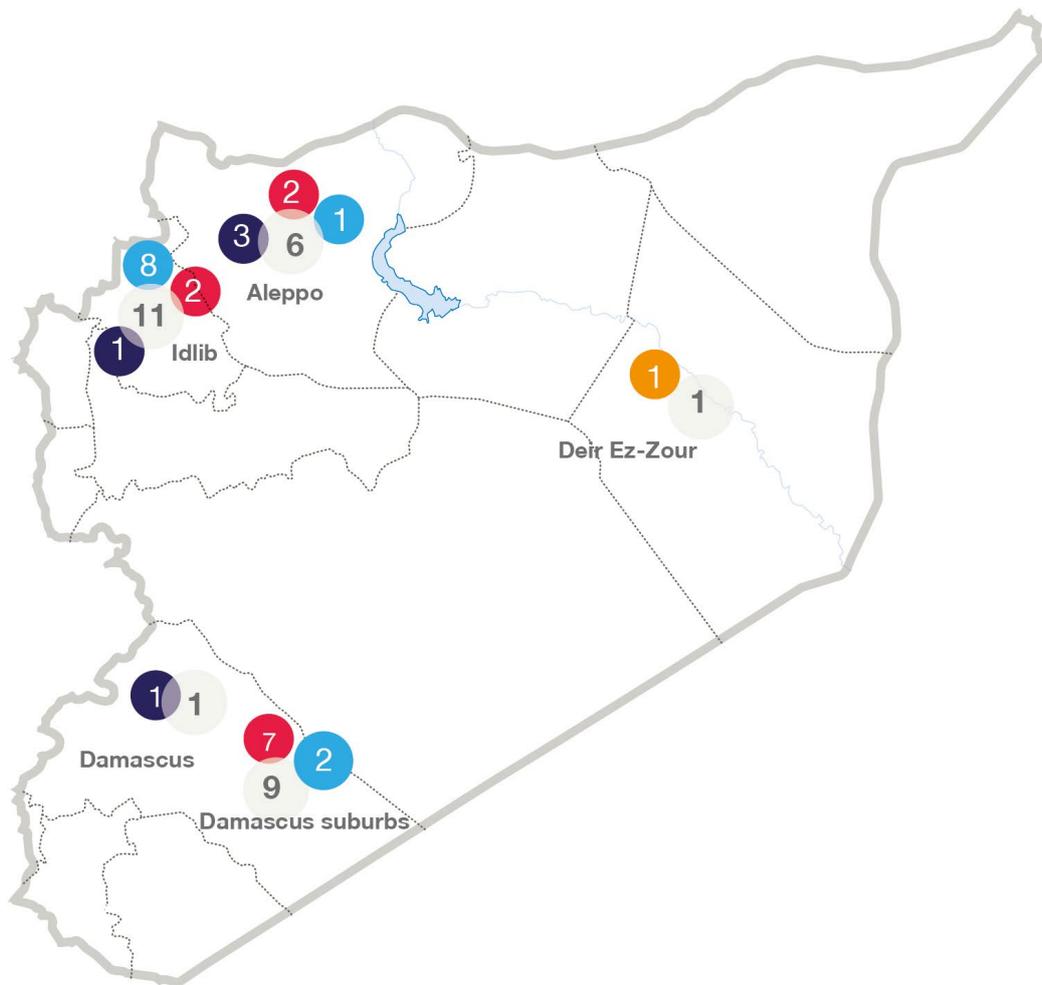


The report [“No less than 28 Massacres in January 2018”](#) stresses that the Syrian-Russian alliance is still responsible for the majority of massacres against civilians, as the report records 11 massacres by Syrian regime forces in January, including seven in Eastern Ghouta, while the massacres by Russian forces were concentrated in Idlib governorate, where eight, out of 11 massacres for which Russian forces were responsible, were in Idlib governorate.

No less than 28 massacres in Syria in January 2018



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Syrian Regime forces and Iranian militias

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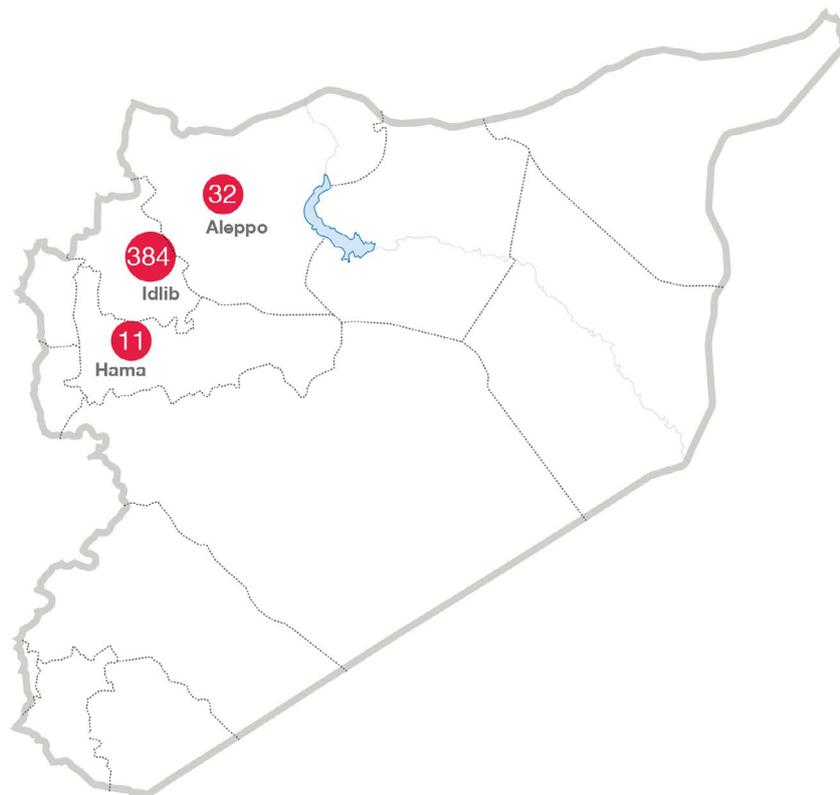
International Coalition forces

Other parties

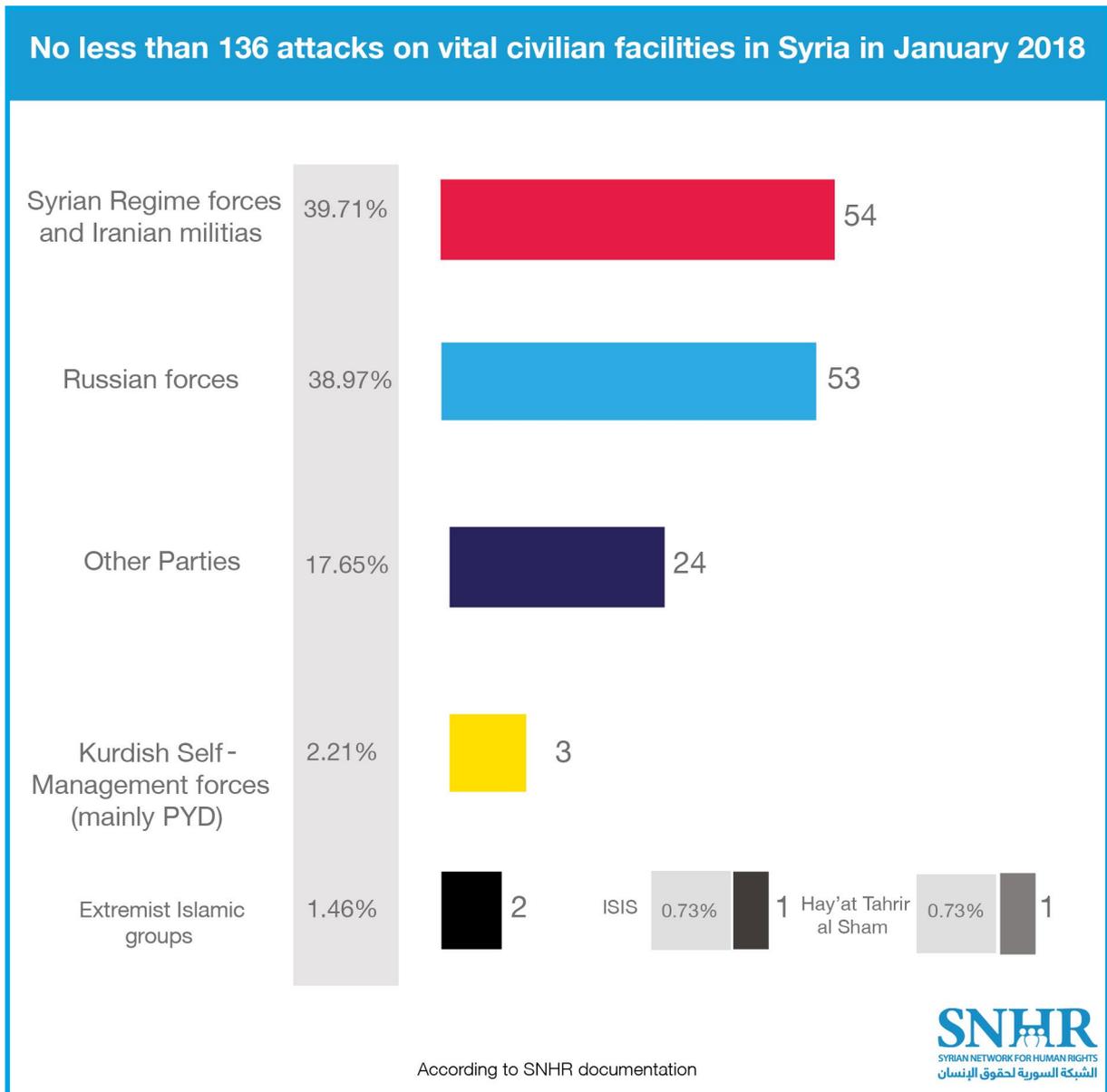


The report [“No less than 427 Barrel Bombs in January 2018”](#) records a rise in the number of barrel bombs dropped on Idlib governorate, as those made up 90% of all barrel bombs dropped in January. Also, the report records that first barrel bomb attacks on Aleppo governorate in months. Those attacks resulted in the killing in seven civilians, including three children and two women.

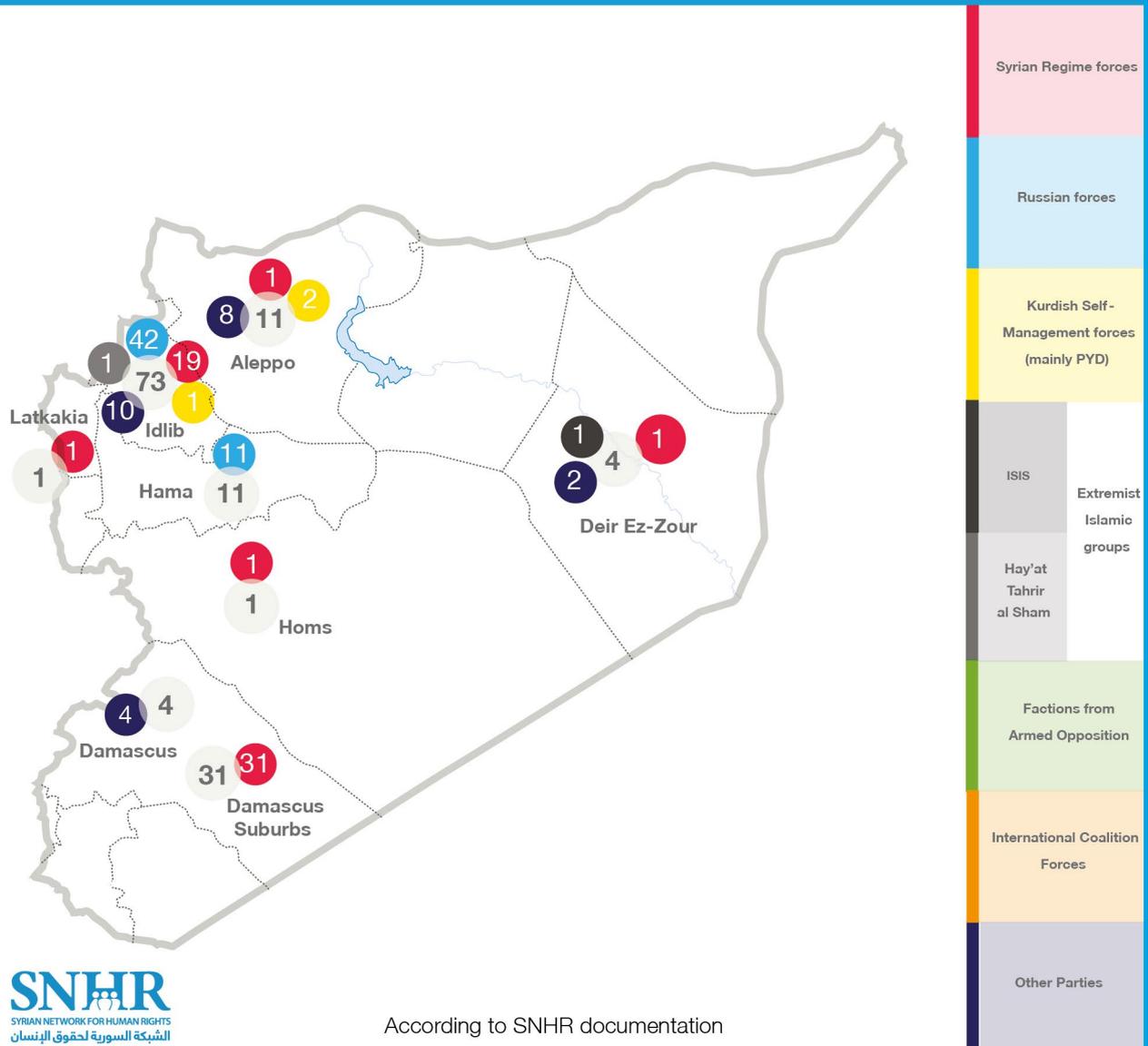
No less than 427 barrel bombs were dropped by Syrian regime forces warplanes in January 2018



In the last report, [“No less than 136 Attacks on Vital Civilian Facilities in Syria in January 2018”](#), we documented an unprecedented rise in the number of attacks on vital civilian facilities since the start of 2017. Syrian-Russian alliance forces were responsible for the majority of incidents, 107 attacks on vital civilian facilities, as the attacks were concentrated this month in de-escalation zones. Idlib governorate saw the most attacks with 73, including 42 attacks by Russian forces, followed by Eastern Ghouta, Damascus suburbs, with 31 attacks which all were carried out by Syrian regime forces.



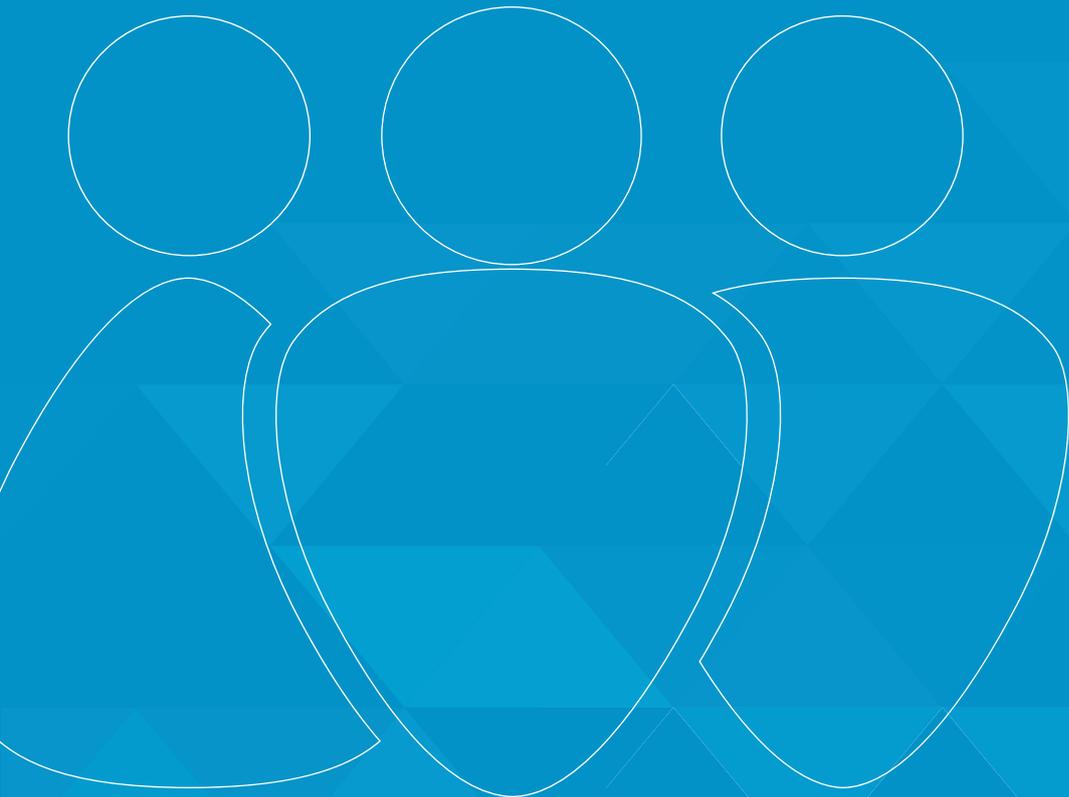
No less than 136 attacks on vital civilian facilities in Syria in January 2018



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