

# Syria

## 2015 Country Summary

### Country Recommendations

Syria's GI ranking in Band F places it in the highest risk category for corruption in the defence and security sector. Syria's highest risk area is Operations, followed by Political, Financial, Procurement and Personnel. The manipulation of military power to protect regime interests, culminating in the military crackdown on protesters in 2011, contributed to the implosion of the Syrian state. Once an inclusive peace settlement is reached, corruption risk will need to be tackled to reduce state fragility and improve security provision:

#### Strengthen inclusive civilian control over the defence and security sector

The **use of armed force to control political debate** in Syria has led to a climate of fear among CSOs, low popular trust in the security sector and poor legitimacy. Corruption and inequality were a crucial catalyst of the demonstrations that culminated in civil war.

- Diplomatic efforts need to establish the grounds for an inclusive settlement that has CSO buy-in.
- DDR should focus on building a truly national Syrian army that is civilian controlled but not tied to the regime, while SSR should be designed to reduce the potential for the co-option of troops. Security cooperation and security assistance should take care not to inadvertently fuel factionalism by privileging one group to the detriment of others.
- Once this has been reached, defence policy should be formulated in consultation with an inclusive range of CSOs and civilian representatives, and a national dialogue should establish the role of the new security services and establish mechanisms for CSO oversight.

**Blanket immunity** for forces that are loyal to the regime has empowered a wide range of militias who are engaged in **organised crime** and **predation**.

- There needs to be punishment for soldiers who predate, while dealing with the root causes, such as lack of pay, and theft of salaries by those higher up the command chain.
- In addition, the protection of civilians and integrity building should be central to military training.

## Scorecard

Political	Defence & Security Policy	Legislative Scrutiny	0
		Defence Committee	1
		Defence Policy Debated	1
		CSO Engagement	0
		International AC Instruments	1
		Public Debate	1
		AC Policy	0
		AC Institutions	0
		Public Trust	0
		Risk Assessments	0
	Defence budgets	Acquisition Planning	0
		Budget Transparency & Detail	0
		Budget Scrutiny	0
		Budget Publicly Available	0
		Defence Income	0
		Internal Audit	1
		External Audit	0
	Other Political Areas	Natural Resources	0
		Organised Crime Links	0
		Organised Crime Policing	1
Intelligence Services Oversight		0	
Intelligence Services Recruitment		0	
Export Controls		0	
Finance	Asset Disposals	Asset Disposal Controls	2
		Asset Disposal Scrutiny	0
	Secret Budgets	Percentage Secret Spending	0
		Legislative Access to Information	0
		Secret Program Auditing	0
		Off-budget Spending in Law	0
		Off-budget Spending in Practice	0
		Information Classification	0
	Links to Business	Mil. Owned Businesses Exist	1
		Mil. Owned Business Scrutiny	0
Unauthorised Private Enterprise		0	
Personnel	Leadership	Public Commitment	0
		Measures for Corrupt Personnel	0
		Whistleblowing	0
		Special Attention to Sensitive Personnel	0
	Payroll and Recruitment	Numbers of Personnel Known	0
		Pay Rates Openly Published	4
		Well-established Payment System	2
		Objective Appointments	2
		Objective Promotions	1
	Conscription	Bribery to Avoid Compulsory Conscription	1
		Bribery for Preferred Postings	1
Salary Chain	Ghost Soldiers	0	

		Chains of Command and Payment	0
	<b>Values, Standards, Other</b>	Code of Conduct Coverage	0
		Code of Conduct Breaches Addressed	0
		AC Training	0
		Prosecution Outcomes Transparent	0
		Facilitation Payments	0
<b>Operations</b>	<b>Controls in the Field</b>	Military Doctrine	0
		Operational Training	0
		AC Monitoring	0
		Controls on Contracting	0
		Private Military Contractors	1
<b>Procurement</b>	<b>Government Policy</b>	Legislation	1
		Transparent Procurement Cycle	1
		Oversight Mechanisms	0
		Purchases Disclosed	0
		Standards Expected of Companies	1
	<b>Capability Gap</b>	Strategy Drives Requirements	0
		Requirements Quantified	0
	<b>Tendering</b>	Open Competition v. Single-Sourcing	1
		Tender Board Controls	1
		Anti-Collusion Controls	1
	<b>Contract Delivery / Support</b>	Procurement Staff Training	0
		Complaint Mechanisms for Firms	2
		Sanctions for Corruption	1
	<b>Offsets</b>	Due Diligence	0
		Transparency	0
		Competition Regulation	0
	<b>Other</b>	Controls of Agents	0
Transparency of Financing Packages		0	
Subsidiaries / Sub-Contractors		0	
Political Influence		1	