

Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)

COMMON ANALYSIS

Last update: June 2025

This analysis is based on the following EUAA COI report: [Country Focus 2025, 2.4](#). Country Guidance should not be referred to as a source of COI. The section below should be read in conjunction with most recent COI available at the time of the examination.

For information on the human rights violations committed by the SDF before the fall of the Assad regime, see EUAA, '[3.3. Syrian Democratic Forces and Asayish](#)' in *Country Guidance: Syria*, April 2024.

For further information about the territorial control and operational capacity of the SDF, see [Country Focus 2025, 4.3](#).

The SDF are a military alliance in which the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) is a prominent component. In March 2025, SDF leaders signed a deal with the Transitional Administration to integrate their armed forces and civilian institutions into the new Syrian military and Ministry of Defence. The agreement stipulates a complete cessation of hostilities and requires the SDF to cede control of border posts, the airport, and key oil and gas fields. The practical implementation of this agreement could not be monitored within the scope of this interim guidance.

After the fall of the Assad regime, the SDF engaged in arrests of [persons perceived to be opposing them](#) and shootings of [protesters](#). Recruitment of children by the Revolutionary Youth Movement, affiliated with the YPG/PKK, continued (see [Persons fearing forced or child recruitment by Kurdish forces](#)).

See other topics concerning actors of persecution or serious harm:

- [Areas of control and influence](#)
- [The Transitional Administration](#)
- [Syrian National Army \(SNA\)](#)
- [Syrian Democratic Forces \(SDF\)](#)
- [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant \(ISIL\)](#)
- [Other non-State actors](#)