



2.6.2. Territorial control and main armed actors

Territorial control in Homs governorate changed during the reference period. In November 2025, ISW and CTP assessed that the western part of the governorate as well as a corridor linking that area with Deir Ez-Zor were controlled by the Syrian Transitional Government, while the south-east and centre were controlled by unidentified opposition groups, except for the Al-Tanf Deconfliction Zone – an area in the south-east along the borders to Iraq and Jordan. The remainder of the governorate was mapped as ‘Lost Regime Territory’.^{[748](#)} By mid-February 2026, ISW and CTP assessed that the Syrian Transitional Government had expanded its control and taken over Al-Tanf as well as the areas previously controlled by unidentified opposition groups. Areas in the north and east along the border to Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqqa governorates as well as a stretch of land in the governorate’s centre-west between the areas controlled by Syrian Transitional Government remained mapped as ‘Lost Regime Territory’.^{[749](#)} In mid-February 2026, the Syrian army took control over the US-run Al-Tanf military base.^{[750](#)} US forces and the Global Coalition Against ISIL had established the base within the Deconfliction Zone in 2016.^{[751](#)} ISW and CTP assessed the 52nd Special Forces Division (formerly the 103rd Division) as the Syrian army’s unit active in Homs governorate.^{[752](#)}

According to Etana Syria, Palmyra was a key location in an area where ISIL managed to maintain ‘significant influence and operational capacity’.^{[753](#)}

- [748](#)

ISW and CTP, Assessed Control of Terrain in Syria November 10, 2025 at 2:00 PM ET [Map], 10 November 2025, [url](#)

- [749](#)

ISW and CTP, Assessed Control of Terrain in Syria, February 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM ET [Map], 16 February 2026, [url](#)

- [750](#)

SANA, Syria takes control of al-Tanf base from U.S. forces, 12 February 2026, [url](#)

- [751](#)

NPA, Syrian Army takes over al-Tanf base in South, 12 February 2026, [url](#)

- [752](#)

ISW and CTP, The New Syrian Army: Order of Battle, 14 November 2025, [url](#), p. 44

- [753](#)

Etana Syria, Brief: Palmyra attack raises concerns of ISIS infiltration, 21 December 2025, [url](#)

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