2.14.3. Security trends

The main security trend in Quneitra governorate during the reference period was the ongoing and expanding presence of Israeli forces in the area.1328 Israeli activity in southern Syria was reportedly highest in Quneitra, followed by Dar'a governorate, and Quneitra remained the primary zone of direct contact.1329 More than 900 IDF incursions into the governorate were reported throughout 2025.1330 According to an analysis by the Syrian Sijil Centre quoted by MEE, the recorded number of Israeli incursions was higher in northern and central Quneitra than in the south, with central Quneitra being particularly affected by Israeli military operations, both in terms of density and intensity.1331

Israeli activities included the establishment of military positions,1332 fortification works,1333 patrols,1334 and the setting up of temporary checkpoints.1335 Restrictions of movement,1336 including to agricultural land,1337 orchards, grazing routes and water points limited the local population's ability to maintain their livelihoods.1338 Other sources described incidents of house searches,1339 interrogations,1340 and detentions, including of children. In some cases, detained civilians were brought into Israeli-controlled territory, or information about their status and whereabouts was not available.1341

Analysing the security situation since the fall of Bashar Al-Assad, the UNCOI stated that the IDF had 'placed additional territory under its authority in fact', thereby expanding its area of occupation in Quneitra governorate.1342

In April 2026, Syrian authorities reportedly claimed to have foiled preparations for a rocket attack in Quneitra governorate planned by a Hezbollah-linked cell1343 – a claim rejected by Hezbollah, saying that it had 'no presence on Syrian territory'.1344 ACLED data indicated Hezbollah as a main security-related actor in the governorate during the reference period, particularly in March and April 2026, predominantly due to the group's rocket and missile attacks fired from Lebanon on Israeli positions.1345

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