



Please cite as: EUAA, '[2.8.1. Actors involved and territorial control](#)' in *Sudan: Security Situation*, October 2026.

2.8.1. Actors involved and territorial control

During the reference period, the SAF controlled the eastern part of South Kordofan as well as a small corridor in the western part of the state connecting Kadugli and Dilling.[883](#) In its operations against the RSF, the SAF were supported by Joint Forces elements and paramilitary volunteers.[884](#) Both Kadugli, capital of South Kordofan, and Dilling, the state's second largest city,[885](#) were controlled by the SAF but surrounded by RSF and SPLM-N-Al-Hilu troops.[886](#) As of November 2025, all local government headquarters and major cities in the state were located in SAF-controlled territory with the exception of Habila town,[887](#) which was later seized by the SAF in January 2026.[888](#)

The RSF controlled a smaller area in the northwest of the state.[889](#) The SPLM-N-Al-Hilu controlled the Nuba Mountains in South Kordofan[890](#) and maintained its command headquarters in Kaoda (Kauda).[891](#) Following the formation of the Taasis alliance in February 2025 (see section [1.1.1. Political developments](#)), the RSF and SPLM-N-Al-Hilu carried out joint military operations in the state.[892](#)

- [883](#)

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