

The Issue of Politics and Security in Syria

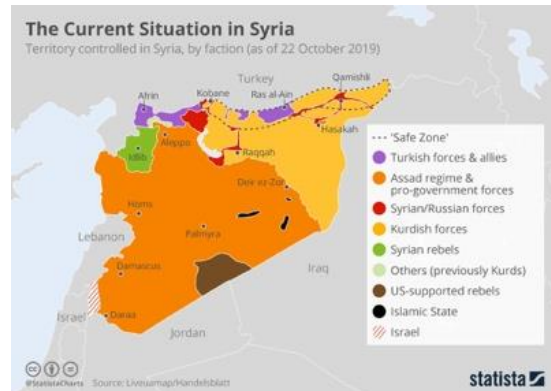
Forum: Advisory Panel

Student Officer: JinWon Ok, Head Chair

Introduction

Politics is the collection of activities linked with group decision-making or other forms of power relations, such as the allocation of resources or social status. Security refers to the condition in which the regime, sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity, welfare of the people, sustainable economic and social development, and other major interests of the state are relatively unthreatened and not threatened internally or externally, as well as the capacity to sustain this condition.

Syria's politics are conducted under the framework of a presidential republic with nominal multiparty representation in parliament, but the majority of opposition groups are suppressed. In addition, the Syrian Civil War is an ongoing violent struggle in Syria between pro-democracy revolutionaries and the long-standing dynastic administration of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Consequently, there have been several disputes between the governments of different countries. At least 13.1 million Syrians require humanitarian assistance across the country. Millions of people in northeast and northwest Syria rely on the flow of food, medication, and other crucial aid over the country's borders.



Current political situation in Syria

Due to numerous risky situations, including armed warfare, air strikes, high levels of violence, terrorism, and kidnapping, the security situation is exceedingly precarious. Numerous



Crime happening in Syria

foreigners, particularly humanitarian workers and journalists, have been kidnapped; more than 400,000 people face death due to military conflicts; violent robbery, kidnapping, and carjacking have increased, among other crimes. In addition, certain health problems, such as infectious disease epidemics, pose a threat to human security because they can cause too many fatalities and/or too much damage globally. The situation in Syria has rendered the majority of healthcare institutions inoperable. The infrastructure is outdated or was severely destroyed during the crisis. Many individuals lack access to vital health care. As a result, over 12.2 million people in Syria require health care.

Background

Before the uprising in Syria began in the middle of March 2011, protests were relatively small in comparison to the wave of anger sweeping the Arab world. Until March 2011, Syria had remained outwardly calm for decades, partly due to the fear of the secret police capturing critical



Civil War in Syria

sides

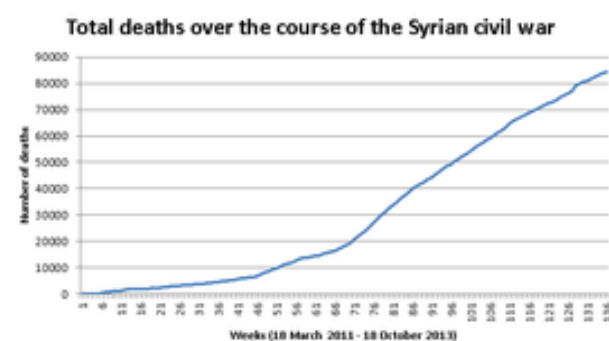
to the nation's governmental structure, a large number of its citizens left. The Syrian refugee crisis is the outcome of a brutal government crackdown on public rallies in March 2011 in support of a group of youths detained in the southern city of Daraa for anti-government graffiti. Syria is no longer a sovereign country; hence, on June 12, 2012, the United Nations for the first time declared Syria to be in a state of civil war. In 2014, a chemical weapons strike in Damascus killed hundreds of civilians, including many children, as a result of the ongoing conflict in Syria. The Syrian Civil War is an ongoing violent struggle in Syria between pro-democracy revolutionaries and the long-standing dynastic regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The Syrian conflict and its related issues, including displacement, a severe economic slump, and the devaluation of the local currency, have impoverished the populace and exacerbated the financial burdens of individuals. Syria's economy has reached its



Living condition in Syria

residents. Unrest in Syria began on March 15, 2011, as part of the broader Arab Spring 2011 protests due to unhappiness with the Syrian government, eventually escalating into armed conflict as demonstrations demanding Assad's ouster were ruthlessly suppressed. Thus, officially, the Syrian civil war began on March 15, 2011, when serious violence broke out following the violent suppression of nonviolent student rallies against the

government of Bashar al-Assad. Currently, various are fighting in the war. As a result of changes made



Rate of Deaths

lowest point since the beginning of its civil conflict nearly twelve years ago, with inflation skyrocketing out of control, the currency plummeting, and major fuel shortages in both government- and rebel-held areas.

Due to Syria's terrible economic state, the government is unable to operate the country effectively, resulting in a political issue from both inside and outside the country. As a result of the country's terrible economic state, a number of its residents have been subjected to a lack of safety. At least 306,000 civilians have been

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killed directly as a result of the ongoing violence in Syria, which is comparable to 1.5% of the pre-conflict population. More than 150 suicides have been recorded in areas held by the Syrian government and the armed opposition, where poverty and bad living conditions have led to a high suicide rate among the population. Thus, the lack of security in Syria is causing deaths and other ailments among the populace. In addition, the occurrence of these difficulties in the past was not limited to political and security challenges. As a result of having a terrible political and security system, other issues arise, such as families fleeing war in their country and leaving everything behind, a shortage of food, water, support, and education, among others.



People Being Injured During the Civil War

Problem Raised

Negative Impact on Citizens

Due to the lack of security in Syria, there has been a high death toll. The Civil War is one of the most significant current causes. The Syrian Civil War is an ongoing violent war between pro-democracy militants and the long-standing dynastic regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Nonetheless, as a result of the civil conflict, death is having a devastating impact on the inhabitants. The United Nations Human Rights Office reported on June 28, 2022, that between March 2011 and March 2021, approximately 1.5% of Syria's pre-war population, or 306,887 people, had been killed during the conflict in Syria. As of 2021, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) has documented 495,000 deaths out of a total estimated figure of 606,000. Additionally, more than half of Syria's 22 million pre-war residents have abandoned their homes. Approximately 6.9 million people are internally displaced, with over two million residing in tent camps with little access to essential services. Due to the nation's inadequate security, they were unable to protect their own population during the Civil War. Due to the fact that the Civil War is occurring due to the desires of a minority of people, the remaining citizens must suffer death as a result of the war. Thus, the lack of security in the nation has resulted in several fatalities, disabilities, a loss of comfort zone, and other negative outcomes.

The Syrian Military's Economic Situation

Since the beginning of the conflict, state military spending in Syria has increased despite the Syrian government's budget cuts. While the exact financial cost is unknown because the Syrian government has stopped including military expenditures in its annual budget, we do know that the value of the Syrian pound has plummeted since the conflict began, from 47 Syrian pounds per US dollar in 2011 to 2512 Syrian pounds per US dollar in the official devaluation in April 2021. Despite improvements in military and public sector earnings, a Syrian soldier in Deir Ezzor allegedly earned about 27,000 Syrian pounds, or approximately 10 USD, in January 2022, placing him far below the poverty line. Consequently, a number of former Syrian soldiers now

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work as farmhands to support their families. While the Syrian government has taken steps, such as requiring many importers to resell 5% of their imports at cost to the Social Military Establishment, to increase the army's revenue, it has been unable to prevent military actors and their affiliates from engaging in unethical and illegal activities.



Syrian Military

The P5 Countries' Positions

United States of America

The United States is one of the major humanitarian donors to the Syrian people in the world. Since 2011, the United States has supplied stabilizing assistance worth more than \$1.3 billion. This includes the announcement in October 2019 of fresh financing of \$50 million to continue these stabilizing initiatives with an emphasis on aiding religious and ethnic minorities. By providing financial assistance to the Syrian government, the United States is strengthening its beneficial relationship with Syria on the political front. In addition, the United States has provided clean water, food, hygiene, and relief supplies; housing; protection services; and essential health and nutrition aid, all of which have had a beneficial effect on security.

United Kingdom

Based on its aid budget, the United Kingdom is the third largest country that helps Syria. Between February 2012 and March 2022, the UK spent about £3.7 billion on FCDO contributions to nearly 30 implementing partners. These partners included UN agencies, international non-governmental organizations, and the Red Cross. All of Daesh's land in Syria and Iraq has been taken back, in part because of British efforts.

France

The French support the Syrian opposition. France was the first Western nation to recognize the SOC on November 13, 2012 to recognize the SOC on November 13, 2012. Since 2011, the administration of Bashar al-Assad has repeatedly violated the most fundamental human rights, some of which may constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity. In response, France is dedicated to ensuring that the perpetrators of these crimes face justice in court. In an effort to strengthen the resilience and economic independence of refugees, France also encourages innovative techniques and new types of refugee assistance.

China

China facilitates a political settlement by talking with both the Syrian government and opposition organizations. In the backdrop of the Syrian crisis, China likewise considers counterterrorism a top priority to be handled. According to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international commerce, there has been active trade between China and Syria through 2021, with China exporting around 482.35 million dollars to Syria.

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Russian Federation

Relations Russia-Syria refer to Russia's and Syria's bilateral ties. Russia has an embassy in Damascus, whereas Syria has one in Moscow. Russia's relationship with Syria has been traditionally solid, stable, and amicable, as it was with the majority of Arab countries prior to the Arab Spring. Since the beginning of the Syrian war in 2011, Russia has provided political, military, and (since September 2015) direct military support to the administration of Syria's incumbent President Bashar al-Assad.

Possible Solutions

Though various actions are being taken to improve the problems in politics and security in Syria, there are still a lot of issues happening in that country. The reason could be the continuous Civil War, lack of support, financial support, low economic position, and more. These reasons are making Syria not develop and remain, causing the same problem for the country itself and even its citizens. Therefore, though we cannot fully solve the ongoing issue directly, various effective ways to work together and mitigate the problems in Syria still exist. These means include:

Help From Other UN Nations

Request that all nations in the UN agree on a reasonable cost of funds that they can all use equally for their countries, taking into account all nations' financial situations, so that no nation suffers as a result of providing funds to their governments. The financial support from each nation requires Syria to develop its national security by providing reasonable amounts of aid to their citizens, such as food, water, clothes, shelter, and more; providing a fair amount of provided funds towards Syria's military; and even using the funds to have efficient trade with other nations, which will improve the relationship between different countries. Moreover, to prevent the funds from being used in an inappropriate area, request Syria to write a monthly report and submit it to the United Nations that shows where and how they have used the funds that were provided by other nations involved in the United Nations. This way, it is possible for Syria to improve its political and security situation appropriately.

Coming Out with A Feasible Way to End the Civil War

Request nations at the UN (United Nations) to devise an efficient way to end the civil war happening in Syria. Since the civil war is one of the most critical security issues in Syria, the best way to improve security is to end the civil war. Thus, request the members of the United Nations to hold a quarterly meeting to come up with a feasible solution to end the Civil War.

Providing an Outline That Shows Ways to Protect the Citizens

Require Syria's government to pass laws outlining clearly how citizens will be protected. Currently, in Syria, air strikes, high levels of violence, terrorism, and kidnapping are some of the most critical issues facing the citizens. Though these things are happening to them, the citizens are not being appropriately secured. Thus, to improve national security, Syria's government needs to secure its citizens.

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Gaining Help From different NGOs

Request NGOs such as the Syria International NGO Regional Forum (SIRF) to support Syria. Request that they provide funds, aid, workers, experts, and others to help Syria improve in political and security areas. Also, request that Syria offer other additional benefits to the NGO's people that help them develop. This way, more NGOs will want to provide help, and Syria can develop faster in both areas.

Glossary

The Syria International NGO Regional Forum (SIRF)

SIRF is the only regional international NGO body dedicated to the Syria crisis, encompassing Syria and neighboring Syrian refugee-hosting countries, where their role is to provide governance functions.



Logo of SIRF

Insurgents

Rebellious acts that did not reach the proportions of an organized revolution

Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR)

A United Kingdom-based information office whose stated aim is to document human rights abuses in Syria. Starting in 2011, it has been focusing on the Syrian Civil War.



Logo of SOHR

United Nations Human Rights Office (UNHRO)

The UN Human Rights Office safeguards and defends all human rights and freedoms. They lead the united Nations' efforts to protect human rights.

Source

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