

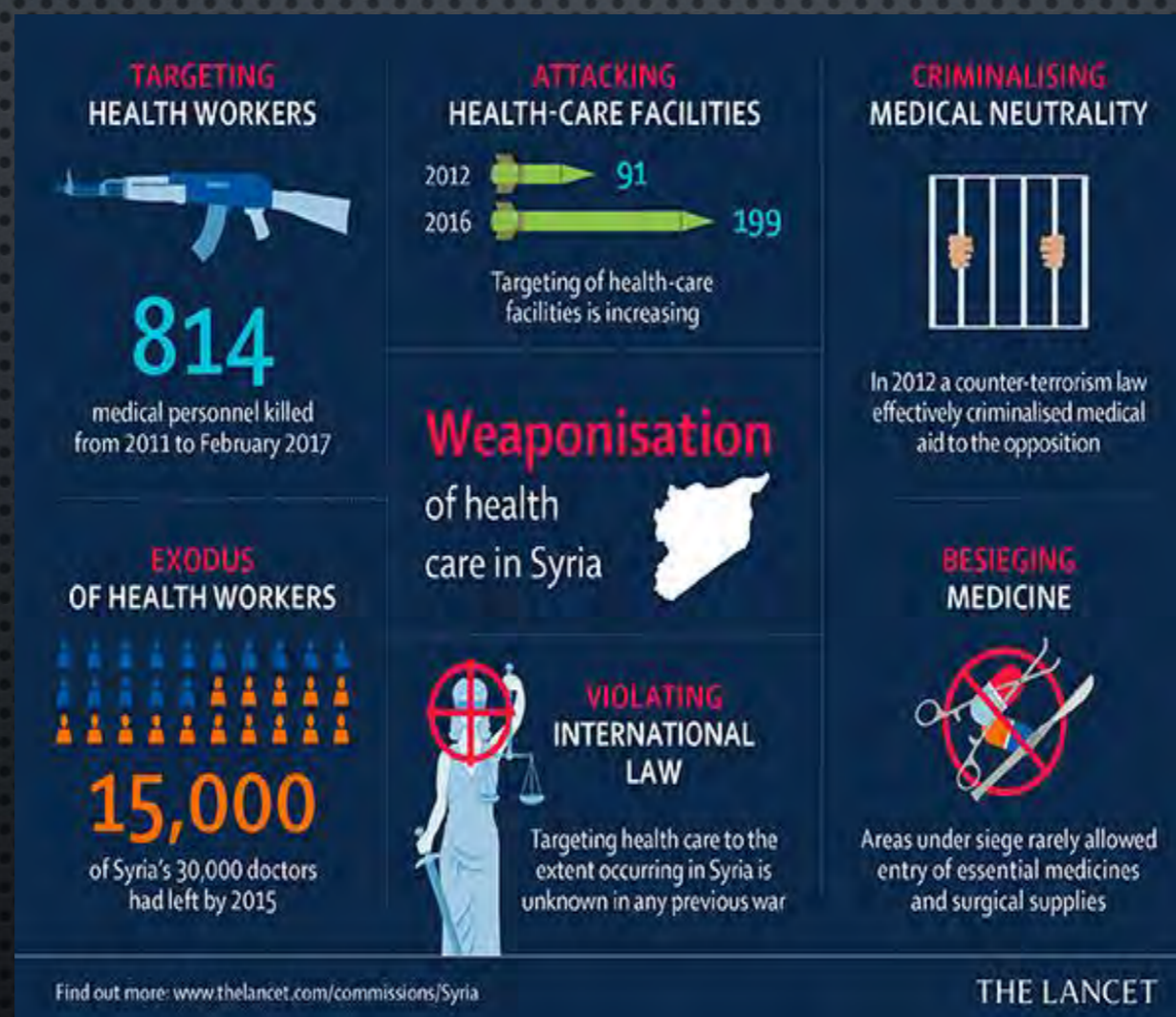
# Health workers and the weaponisation of health care in Syria: a preliminary inquiry for *The Lancet*—American University of Beirut Commission on Syria

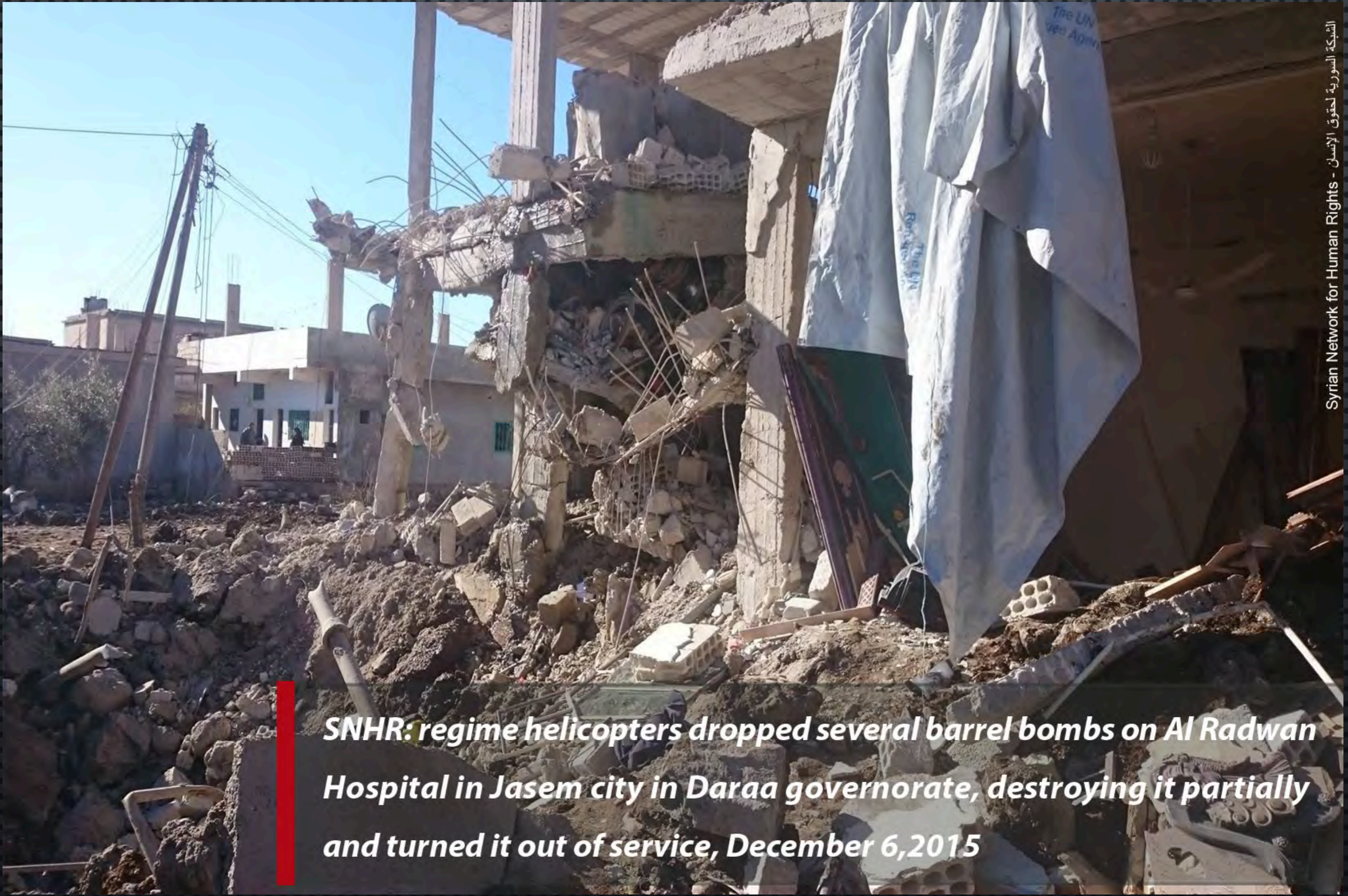
Fouad M Fouad, MD, Annie Sparrow, MBBS, Ahmad Tarakji, MD, Mohamad Alameddine, PhD, Prof Fadi El-Jardali, PhD, Adam P Coutts, PhD, Nour El Arnaout, MPH, Lama Bou Karroum, MPH, Mohammed Jawad, MBBS, Sophie Roborgh, MSc, Aula Abbara, MBBS, Fadi Alhalabi, MD, Ibrahim AlMasri, MD, Samer Jabbour, MD

*The Lancet*

Volume 390, Issue 10111, Pages 2516-2526 (December 2017)

DOI: 10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30741-9





***SNHR: regime helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Al Radwan Hospital in Jasem city in Daraa governorate, destroying it partially and turned it out of service, December 6, 2015***



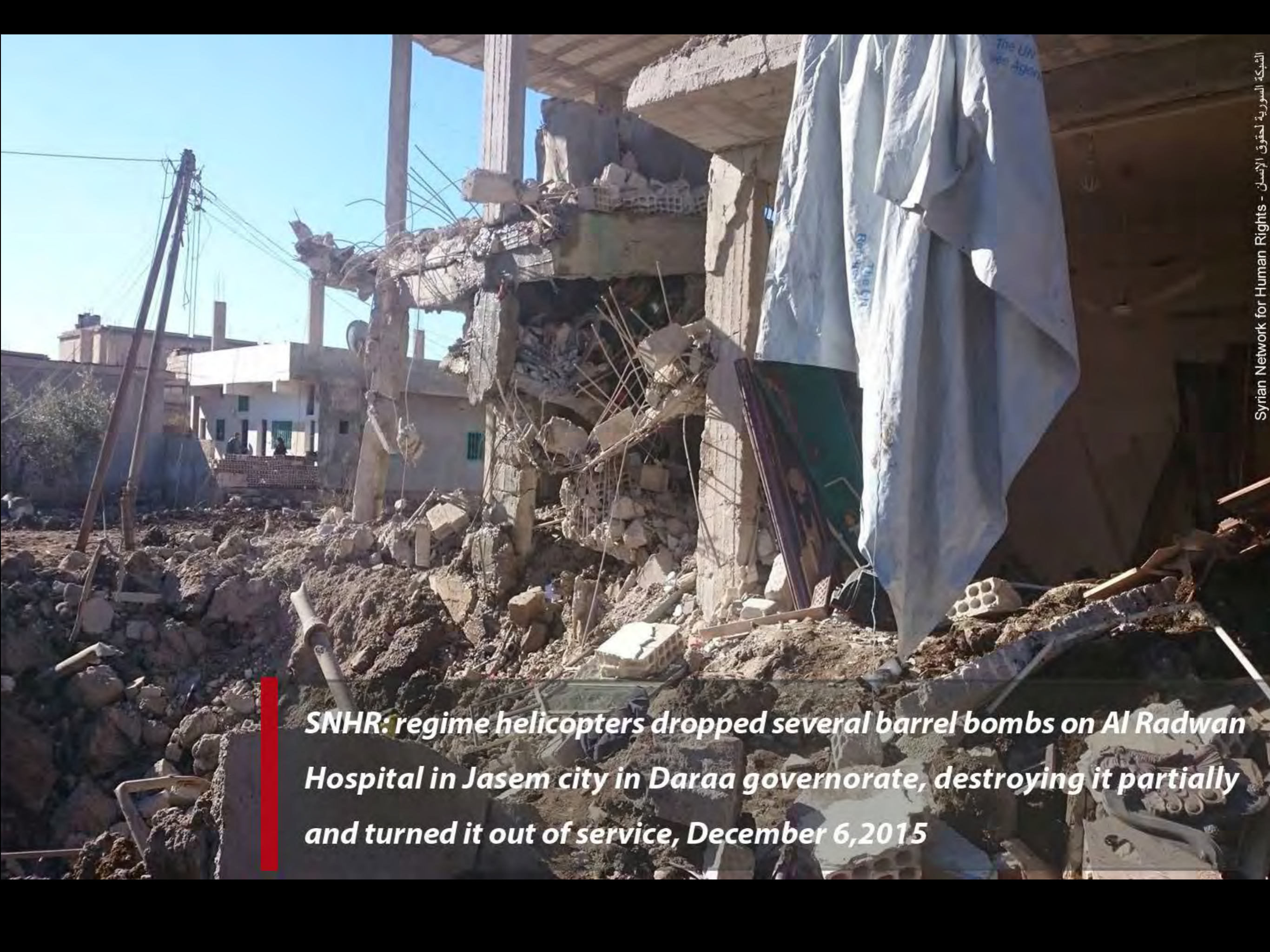
TARGETED BY  
GOVERNMENT OF  
SYRIA AIRFORCE  
ON



Russian Ministry of Defense: Bombing of Water Treatment Plant



***SNHR: regime warplanes fired missiles near a water purification plant in Al Khafsa town in Aleppo governorate, causing damages, November 26, 2015.***



***SNHR: regime helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Al Radwan Hospital in Jasem city in Daraa governorate, destroying it partially and turned it out of service, December 6, 2015***



- DOCTORS, DENTISTS, PHARMACISTS, PARAMEDICS & MEDICAL STUDENTS CONTINUE TO WORK DESPITE THE DAILY DANGERS. OVER 900 VERIFIED MEDICAL PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN KILLED.



WORLD NEWS MARCH 14, 2018 / 3:54 PM / 7 DAYS AGO

## **U.N. adviser Egeland says 'tremendous battles' still loom in Syria**

To stem one of the worst effects of the fighting - air strikes on medical facilities - Egeland said a new notification system for the coordinates of more than a dozen hospitals had gone into effect in the last few days.

“We have delivered coordinates on hospitals both in eastern Ghouta and in Idlib to the United States and to Russia, and Russia will not only guarantee that they will not attack, we’re asking them also to make sure that Syrian armed forces, the air force, is not targeting the hospitals,” Egeland said.

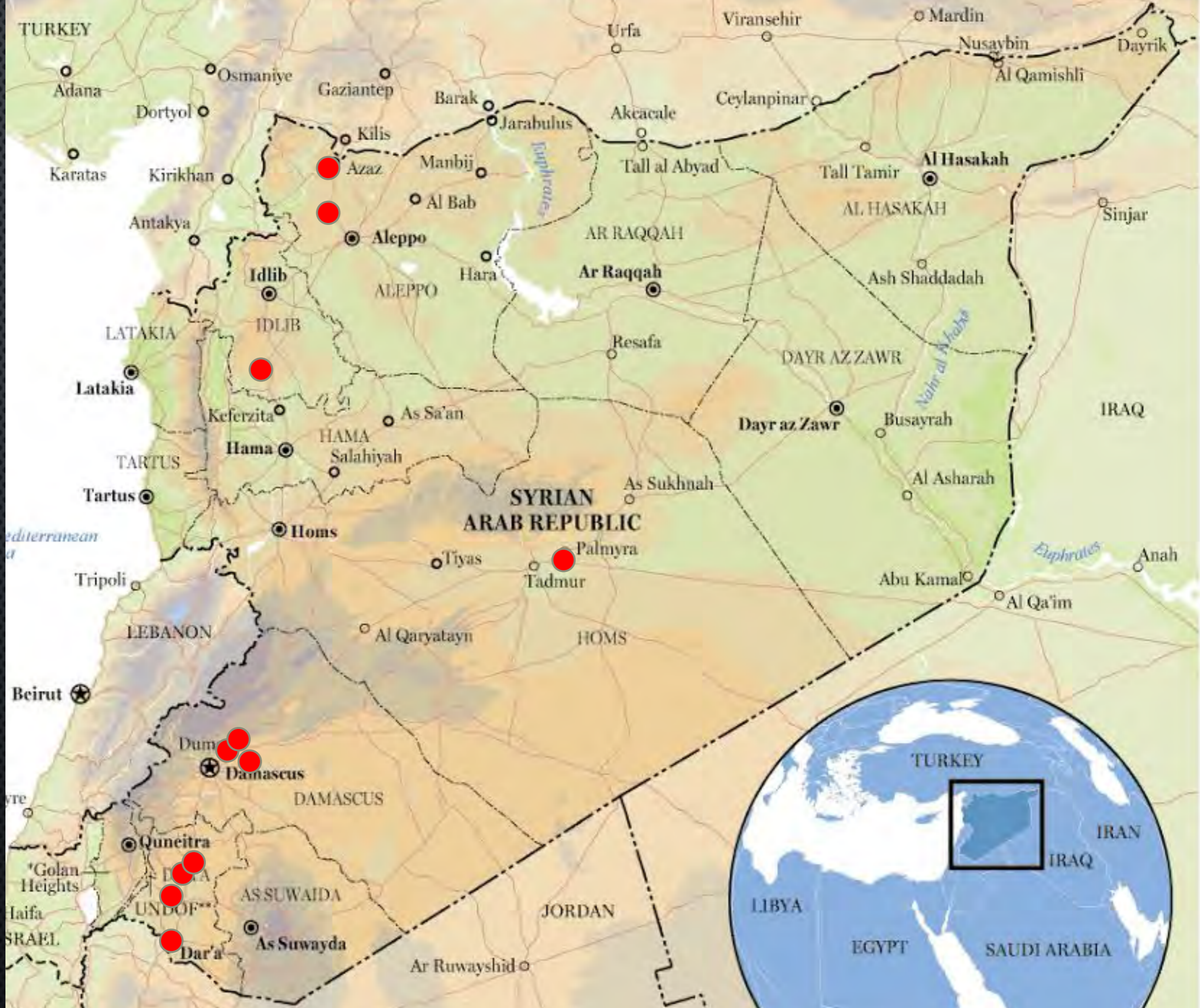
[Published by Reuters](#), March 14, 2018:

INTENTIONALITY OF  
HEALTH CARE  
ATTACKS IS CLEARER  
NOW, THAN EVER  
BEFORE:

GPS SHARING,  
INTRODUCED TO  
PROTECT  
HEALTHCARE, IS  
INSTEAD ASSISTING IN  
KILLING.

THIS PATIENT KILLED IN  
HIS HOSPITAL BED IN  
ARBEEN (EASTERN  
GHOUTA) AFTER THE  
CLINIC'S GPS  
COORDINATES WERE  
PROVIDED TO UN.





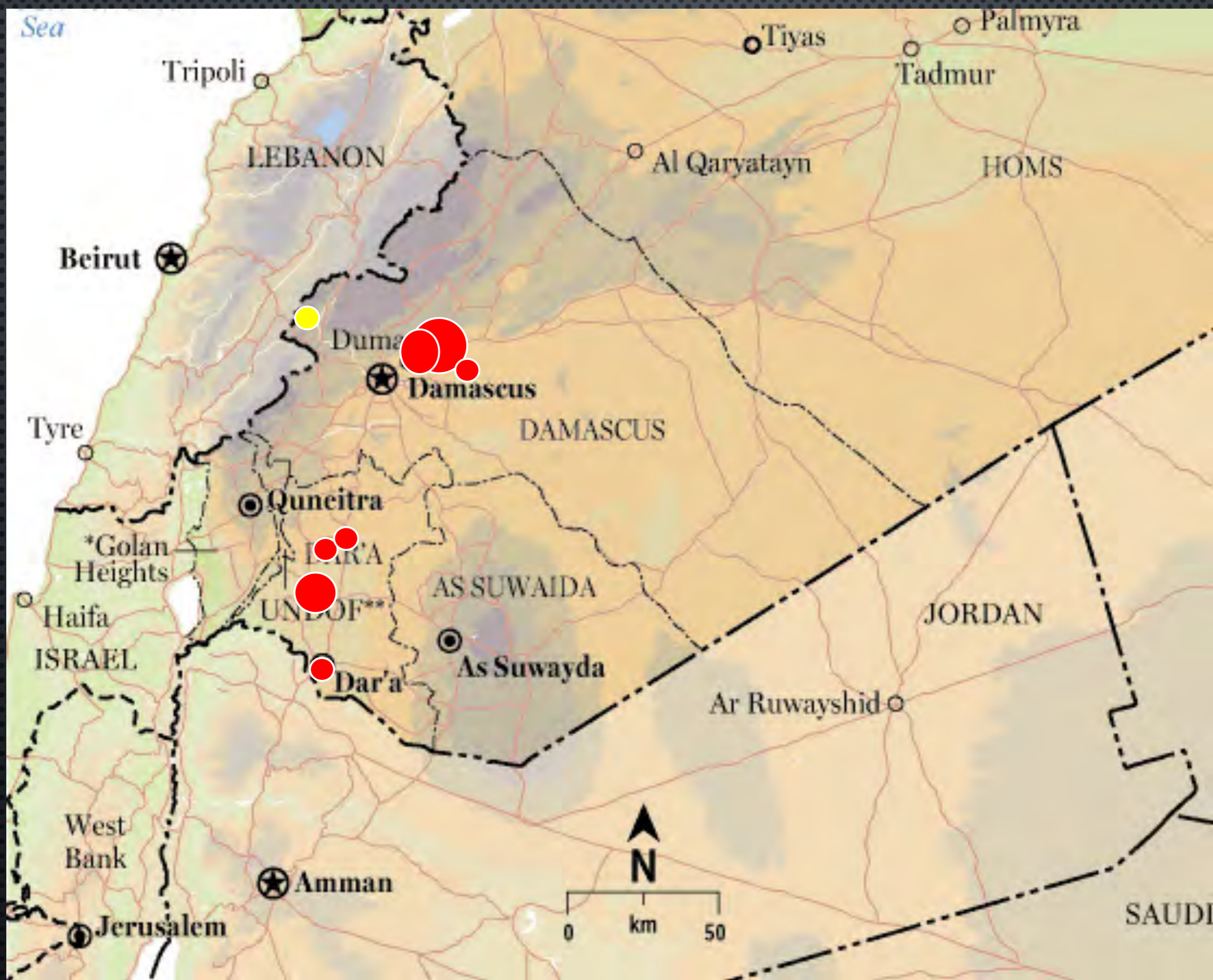


Figure 1

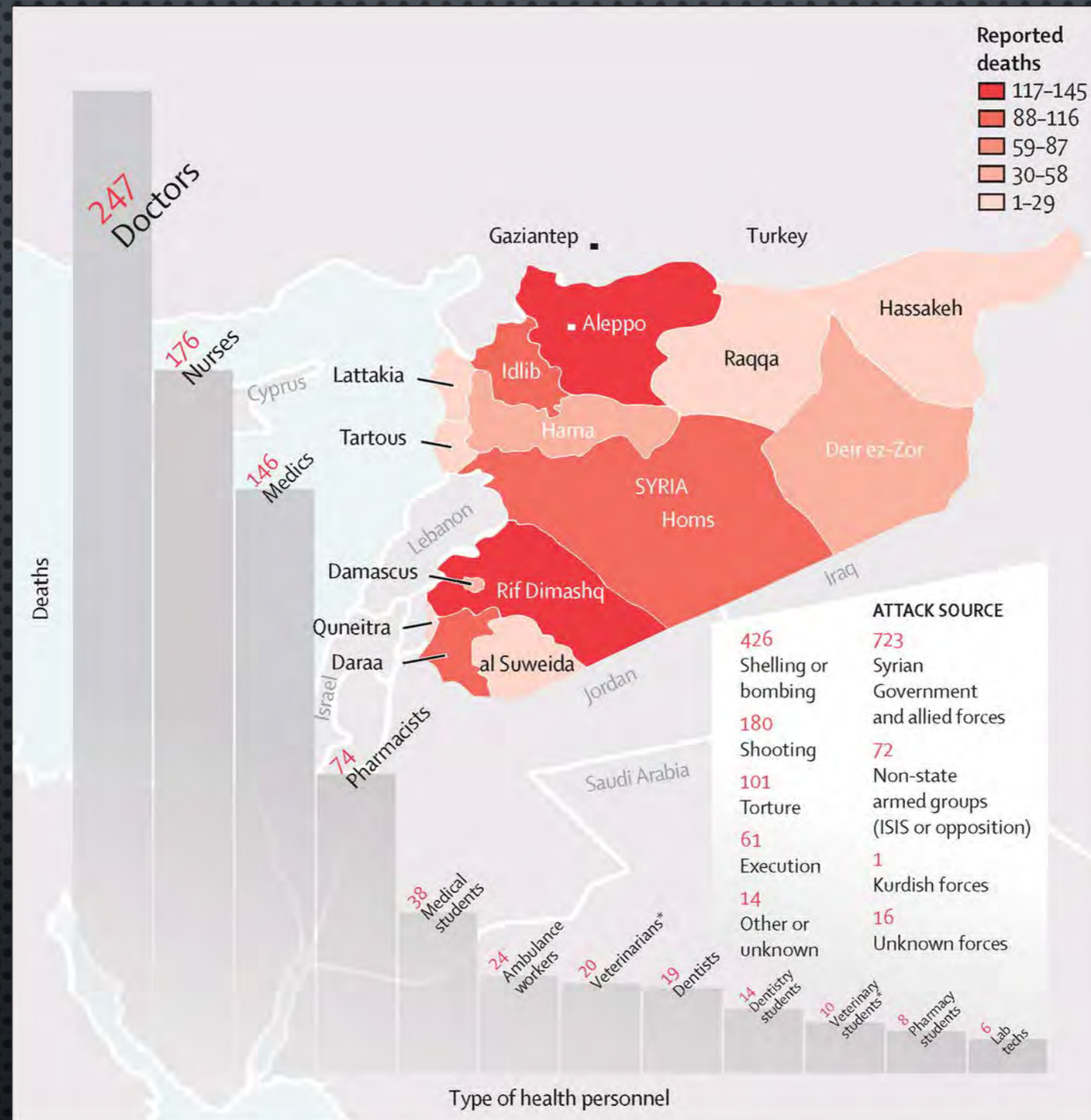


Figure 2

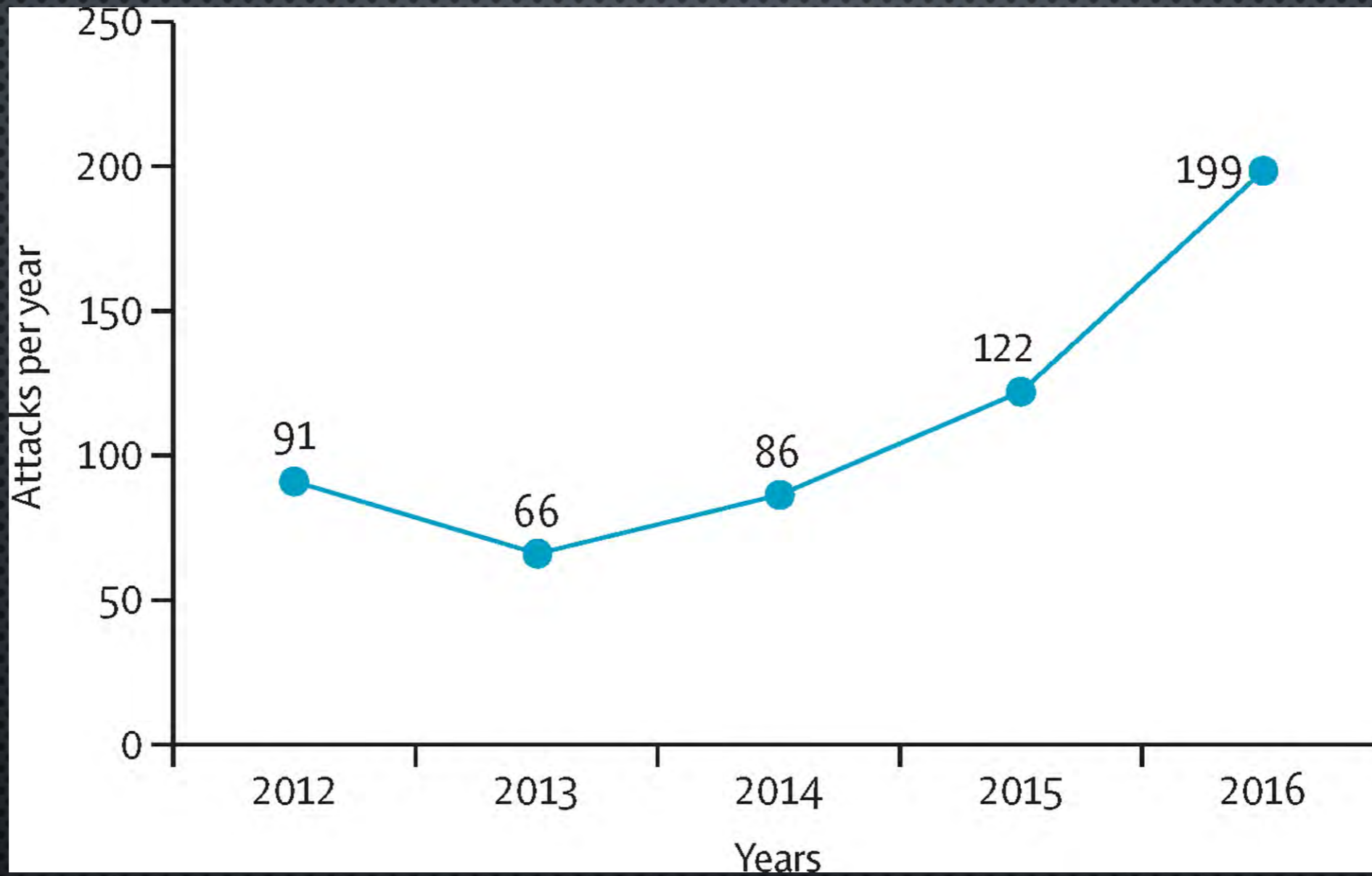
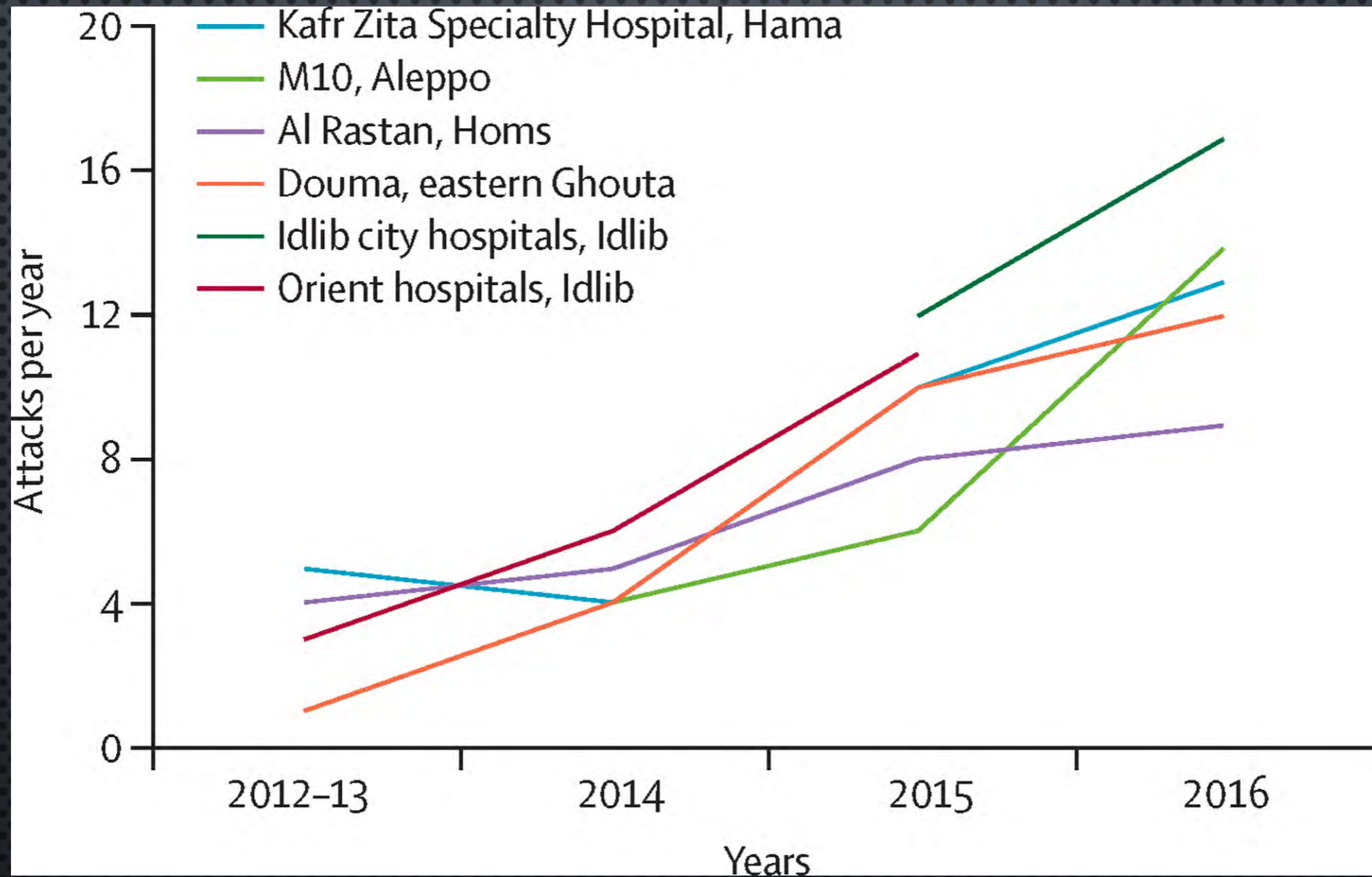


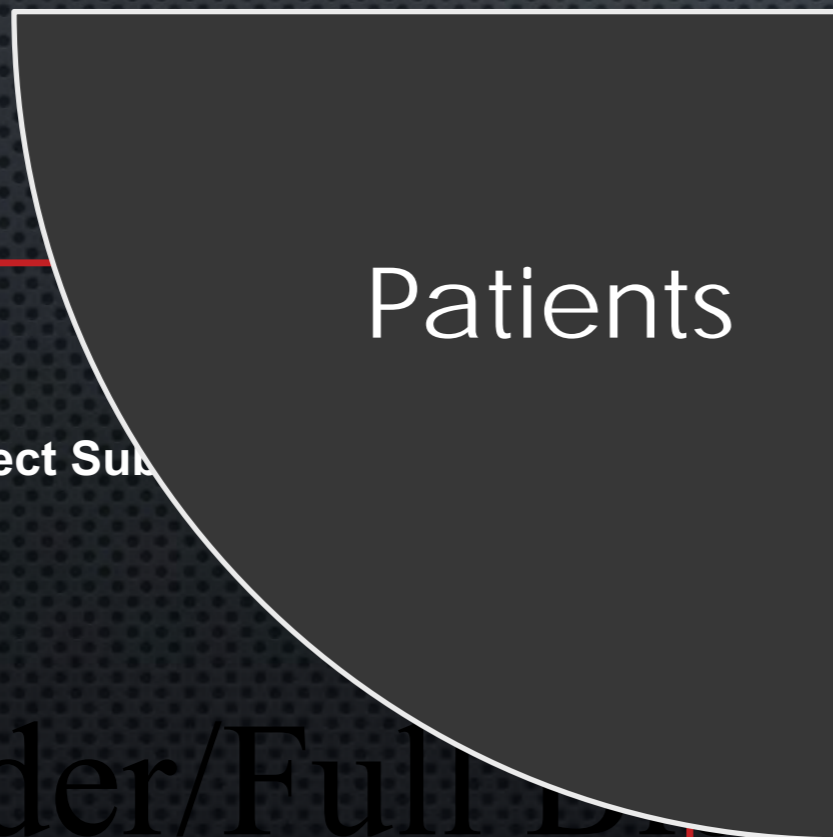
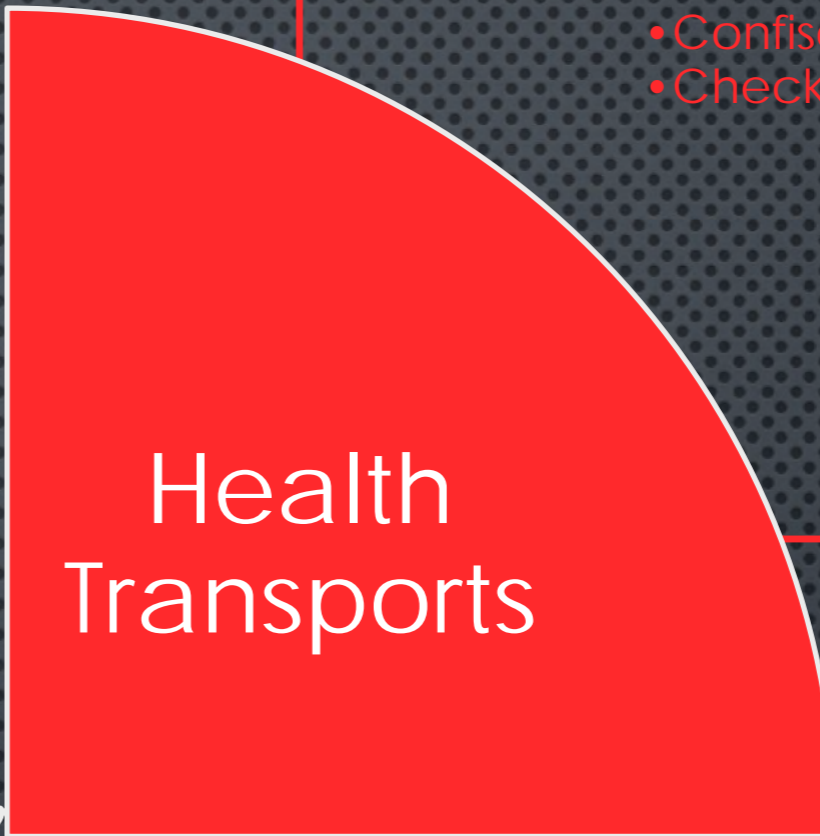
Figure 3



- Occupation
- Bomb/destroy
- Confiscation of supplies and equipment
- Access blocked



- Bombed or destroyed
- Confiscated
- Checkpoints and delays



- Name/Subject Sub**  
**Title/caption**  
**Title/caption**
- Shot
  - Beaten
  - Threatened
  - Interrogated
  - Kidnapped
  - Tortured
  - Raped
  - Arrested

- Shot
- Beaten
- Threatened
- Interrogated
- Kidnapped
- Tortured
- Raped
- Arrested



# Findings- 2016

| Hospital | Out Patient | Other Facility | Transports | Total |
|----------|-------------|----------------|------------|-------|
| 120      | 25          | 31             | 16         | 200   |

33 facilities attacked more than once.

Two health facilities attacked more than 10 times, both in Aleppo

# Casualties

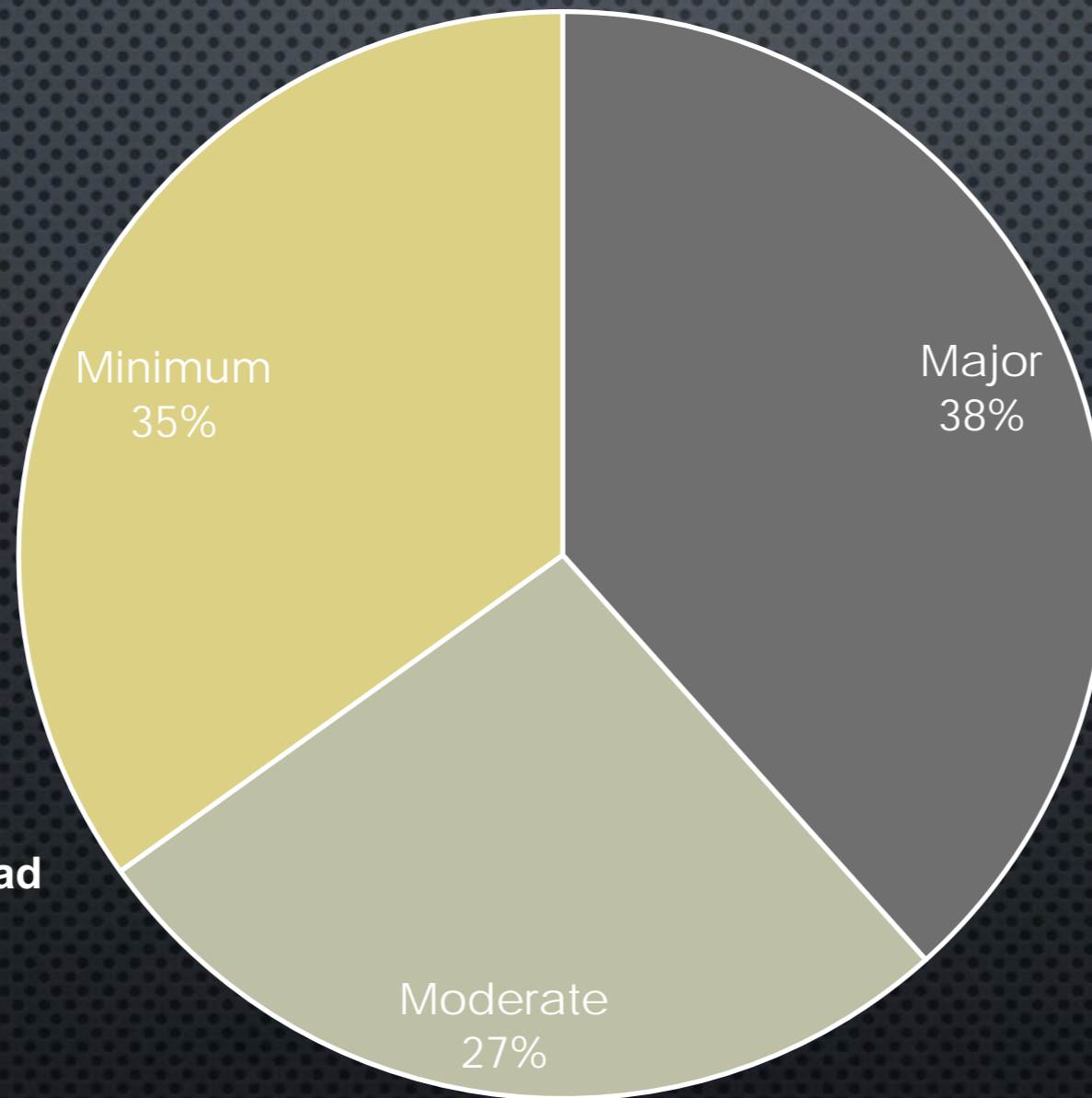
|          | Staff | Patients |
|----------|-------|----------|
| Deaths   | 112   | 185      |
| Injuries | 94    | 339      |

## By Region

Table 1. Geographical distribution (%) of incidents by governorate.

| Governorate | Incidents | Casualties (deaths + injuries) |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Hama        | 12 (6%)   | 12 (1.8%)                      |
| Homs        | 17 (8.5%) | 45 (6.7%)                      |
| Aleppo      | 122(61%)  | 428 (63.5%)                    |
| Idleb       | 49(24.5%) | 189 (28.0%)                    |

# Extent of Damage

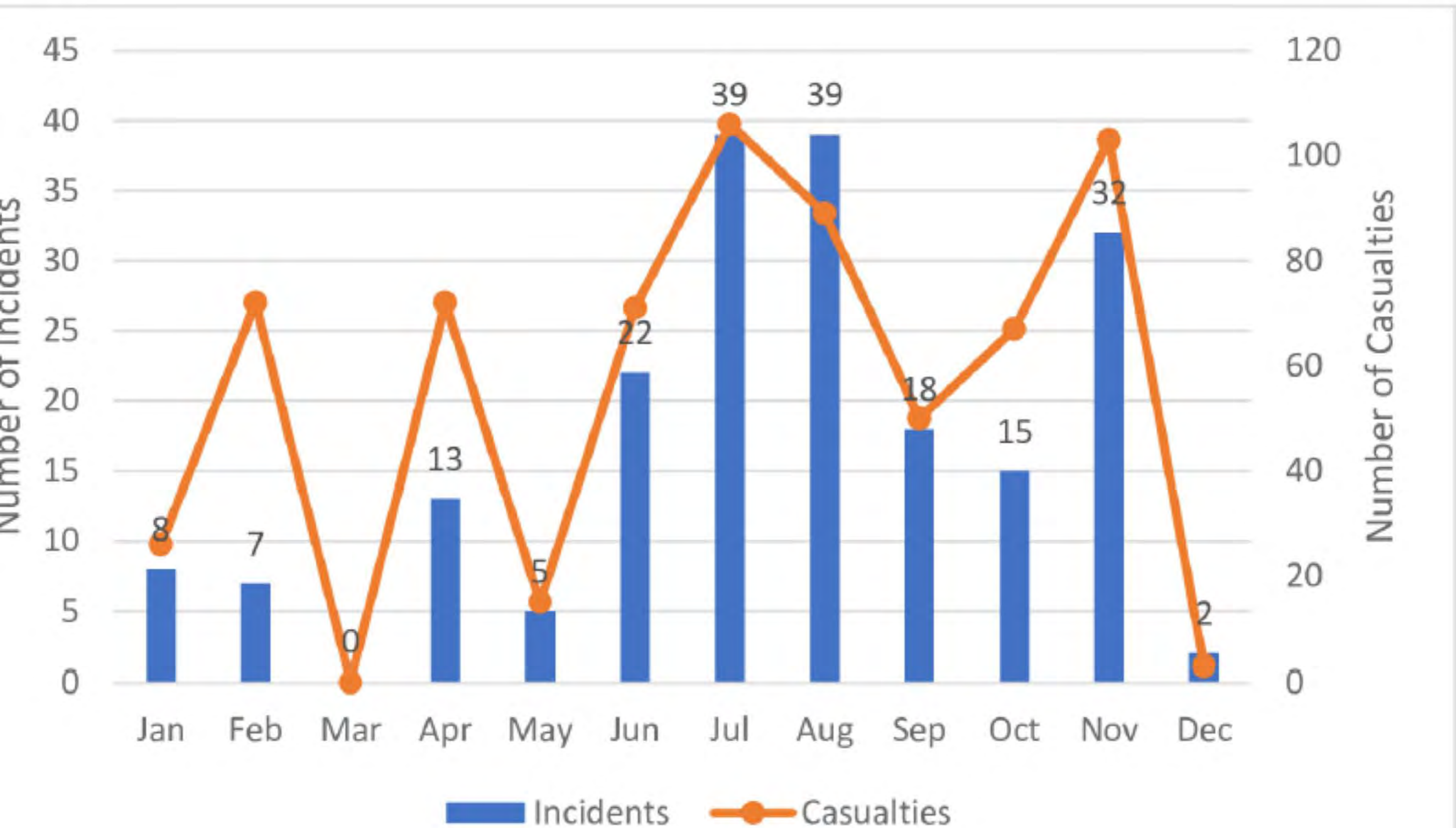


**Name/Subject Subhead**  
Title/caption  
Title/caption

# Header/Full Bleed Image



# Incidents and Casualties



## SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR ATTACKS ON HEALTH CARE (SSA) Administrator's Dashboard

Search

**139**

Attacks

[More info](#)

**101**

Deaths

[More info](#)

**189**

Injuries

[More info](#)

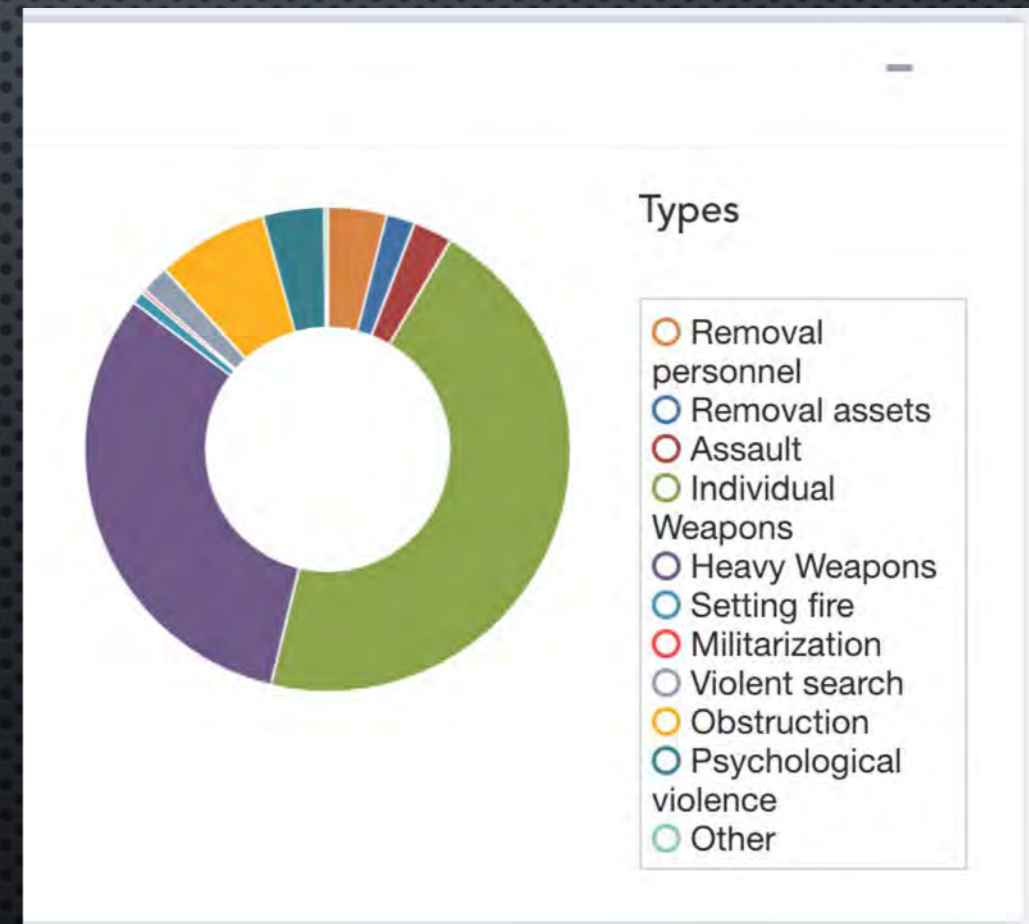
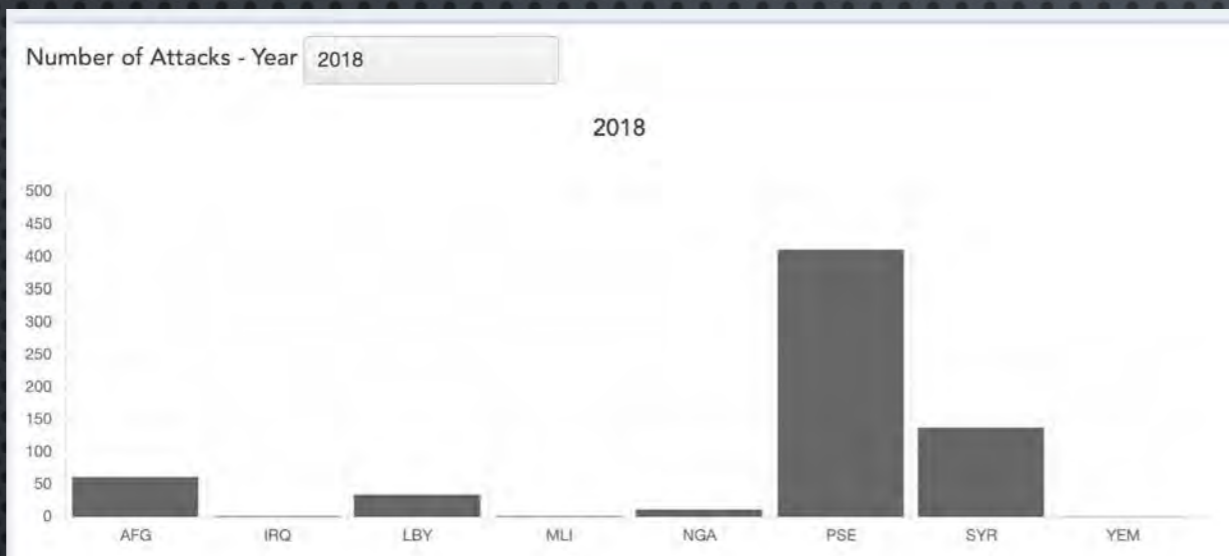
**1**

Countries & Territories

[More info](#)

### Recently Reported Attacks

| Attack ID                 | Date & Time        | Country | Classification   | Type   |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------|------------------|--|
| <a href="#">SYR000984</a> | 12/12/18, 13:15:00 | SYR     | <b>Confirmed</b> | Violence with heavy weapons (requires more than one person to use such as firearms, tanks, missiles, bombs, mortars)   |
| <a href="#">SYR000965</a> | 29/11/18, 16:10:30 | SYR     | <b>Probable</b>  | Violence with heavy weapons (requires more than one person to use such as firearms, tanks, missiles, bombs, mortars)   |
| <a href="#">SYR000827</a> | 29/10/18, 17:30:00 | SYR     | <b>Confirmed</b> | Psychological violence/threat of violence/intimidation, Violence with individual weapons (knives, bricks, clubs, guns, grenades and improvised explosive devices (IED) |
| <a href="#">SYR000825</a> | 20/10/18, 11:30:00 | SYR     | <b>Confirmed</b> | Assault (without weapons)  |
| <a href="#">SYR000775</a> | 02/10/18, 09:45:00 | SYR     | <b>Confirmed</b> | Violence with individual weapons (knives, bricks, clubs, guns, grenades and improvised explosive devices (IED)   |



### Comparative data

| Attacks |     | Deaths |     | Injuries |     |
|---------|-----|--------|-----|----------|-----|
| 2019    | 23  | 2019   | 1   | 2019     | 18  |
| 2017    | 5   | 2017   | 0   | 2017     | 3   |
| 2018    | 671 | 2018   | 143 | 2018     | 843 |

DAY 916

September 16th, 2013 by [Annie Sparrow](#) · 5 min read ·

f Facebook

Twitter

# Preventing Medicine: A New Weapon of Mass Destruction

Last week, New York Times columnist Nick Kristof nominated Syria as the world capital of human suffering. It's not just the direct consequences of war: the bombs, rockets, artillery, bullets and now gas rained down upon the civilian population.

**CRISIS ACTION NEEDED ONE OF THE OPEN LETTER DOCTORS TO CLARIFY THE ASSAD REGIME AS VIOLATORS OF MEDICAL NEUTRALITY**

# Syria's Assault on Doctors

Annie Sparrow



*JM Lopez/AFP/Getty Images*

*A destroyed ambulance in Aleppo, Syria, January 12, 2013*

Over the last few weeks, the growing plight of Syria's civilian population has drawn

December 19 2013, 7.05pm EST

# Doctors on the frontline: we are targets in Syria's civil war



The victims of civil war doctors are trying to help. Manu Brabo/AP

We don't know the exact details of why Abbas Khan, the British surgeon who **died while in custody**, was arrested last November at a regime checkpoint in Syria and imprisoned and

# AL-KINDI HOSPITAL: BEFORE AND AFTER



# GOT AID?

طفل سوري يخاطر بحياته لشراء رغيف الخبز لعائلته  
Syrian child risking his life to buy loaf of bread for his family

# #BREAK THE SIEGE

#كسر الحصار

رغيف خبز: أحد وسائل نظام الأسد لكسر صمود الشعب من خلال منع دخوله للمدن والأرياف سياسة التجويع

Loaf of bread: Assad regime way to break resilience Syrian people by prevent entering bread to cities and rural areas.

Starvation policy  
Assad policy in Syria

كسر الحصار  
Break the siege  
نظام الأسد  
التجويع

# WAR GAMES





ZMA

وكالة زاجل الإعلامية

الشيخ منصور

دوار الحديدية

شبكة الهاتف

حي الشيخ خنجر

ارض العمرا شارع الفيلان - الصاخور

كرم البيك

طريق الباب

خات

كرم الفاطرجي

كرم الجزماتي

الميسر

دوار الحاووظ

المرجة

دوار الصناعة

مبنى بنجر

الأنصاري - ضهرة عواد

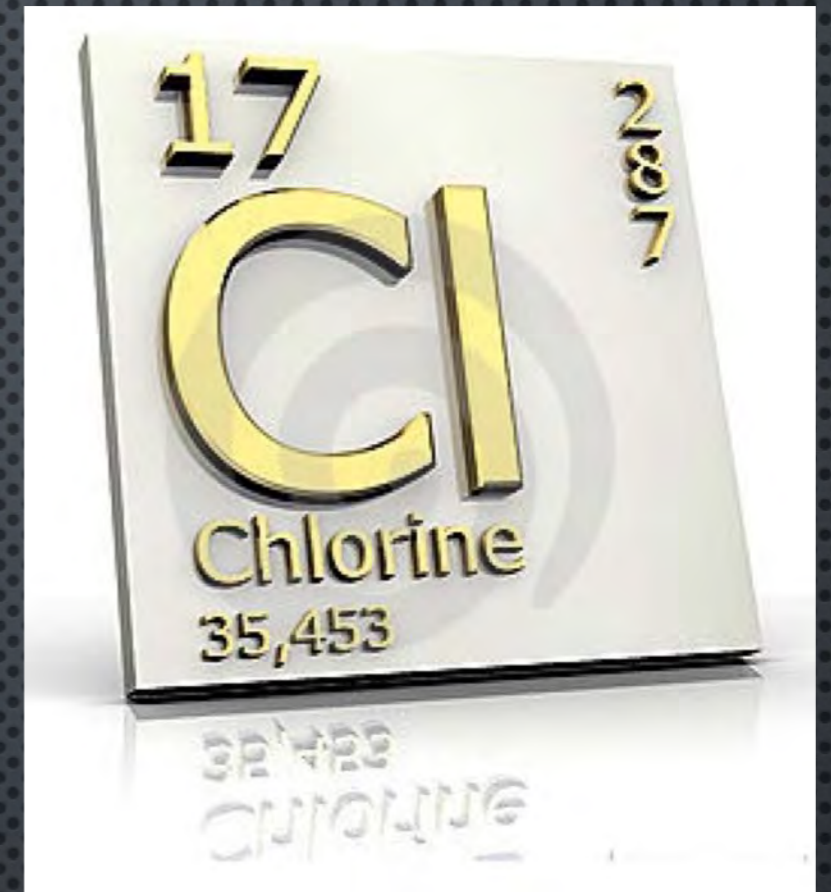
الفردوس

# DR. HOSAM JAROUD MOHAMED KHALIJI





# THE WEAPONIZATION OF CHLORINE



**ASSAD'S TRANSFORMATION  
OF THE PRINCIPAL ELEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INTO A TOOL  
OF BIOLOGICAL WARFARE AND TERROR**

DR. ANNIE SPARROW, MBBS MD MRCP FRACP MPH

BY SYRIANS, WITH SYRIANS, FOR SYRIANS.

# WATER PURIFICATION



- 90% WATER SOURCES IN US AND EUROPE DEPEND ON CHLORINE. IT KILLS ALL LIVING SPECIES
- CHOLERA AND TYPHOID WERE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL MID 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ONLY BY CHLORINE



# BEYOND SAFE DRINKING

**WATER** – LAUNDRY,  
TOILETS

HOSPITALS – ORs, ERs,  
WARDS

EPIDEMICS: EBOLA IN WEST  
AFRICA

CHOLERA IN EAST AFRICA  
+ HAITI





# MODERN ANTIBIOTICS MEDICINES

ANALGESICS (TYLENOL) &  
ANXIOLYTICS (XANAX)

ANESTHETIC AGENTS

SURGICAL SCRUBS

CHEMOTHERAPY DRUGS

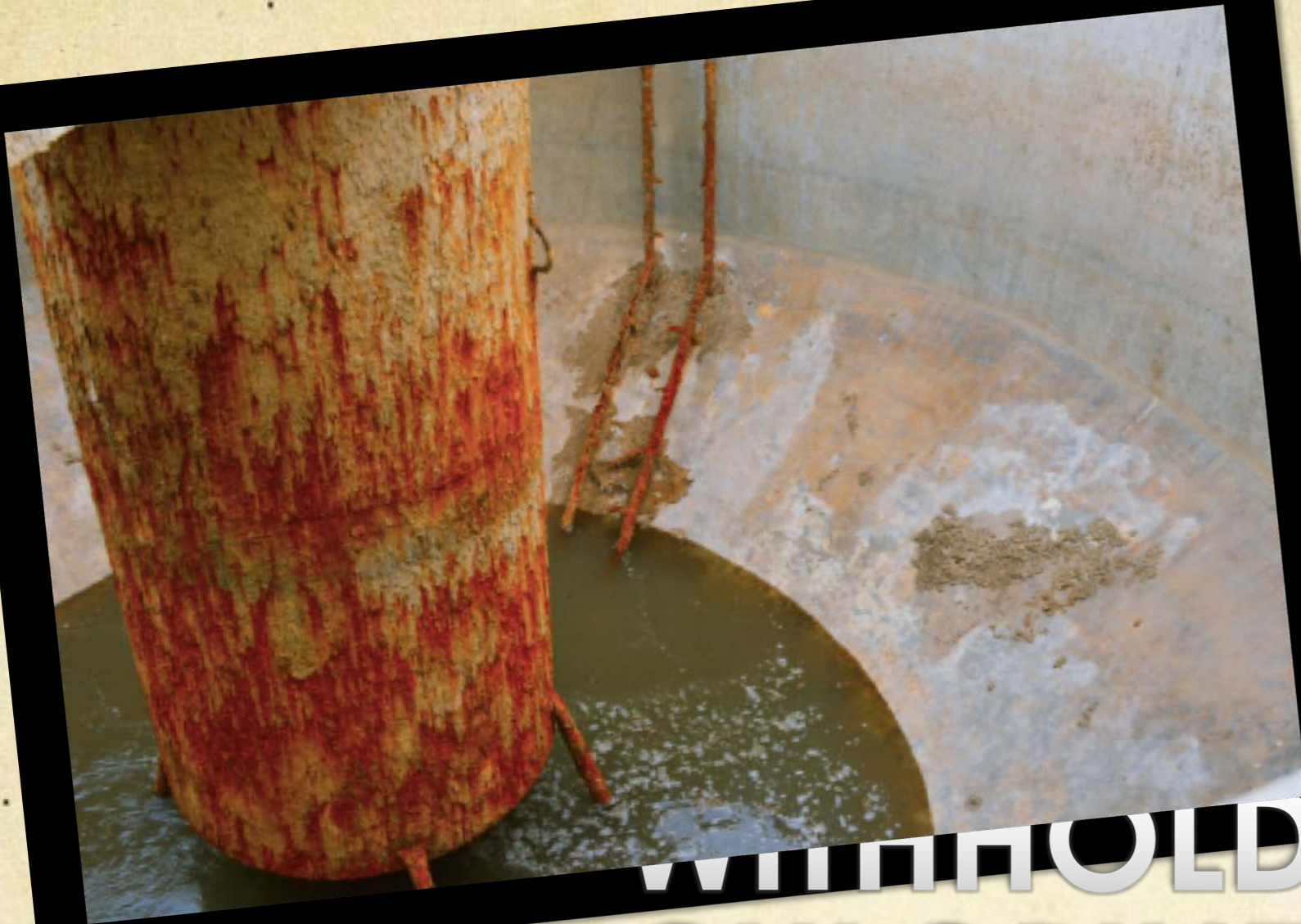
ANTI-HISTAMINES

ASTHMA DRUGS

ANTI-MALARIALS

STERILE GLOVES, GLASSES, DIALYSIS  
TUBING, URINARY CATHETERS, IV  
FLUID BAGS, XRS...





# WITHHOLDING OF CHLORINE:

CHOLERA: WHO ALERT FEB 24, 2015

## BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

LACK OF SURVEILLANCE

NO LABORATORIES, RDTs

PREVIOUS COVER-UPS OF CHOLERA IN  
RAQQA (2005) & DEIR EZZOR (2009)



# THE RETURN OF POLIO & THE RISE OF WATER-BORNE DISEASE

HEPATITIS A: 10,000 CASES IN 2014

TYPHOID: ENDEMIC IN MAYADEEN

HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN DARA'A



# DESTRUCTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY IN ALEPPO

WOUND INFECTIONS → GANGRENE + AMPUTATIONS. MATERNAL SEPSIS

# FROM LEGITIMATE DUAL-USE COMPOUND TO ILLEGAL WEAPON



Cost-effective  
Cheap  
Locally made

# CHEMICAL VS CONVENTIONAL



*Bass*  
*for the hundreds of civilians who died in sarin attacks on the Syrian town of Zamal, August 2013. After the attacks the Syrian government, under the threat of US military elimination of its chemical weapons but was able to keep its stockpiles of chlorine, reportedly used in attacks on civilians.*



Kids matter: Key to engaging public + political action

# CHLORINE AND BARREL BOMBS SHARE SAME DELIVERY MECHANISM

BY HIGHLIGHTING CHLORINE  
ATTACKS, WE FOCUS  
ATTENTION ON BARREL  
BOMBS TOO—THE BIG  
KILLERS.





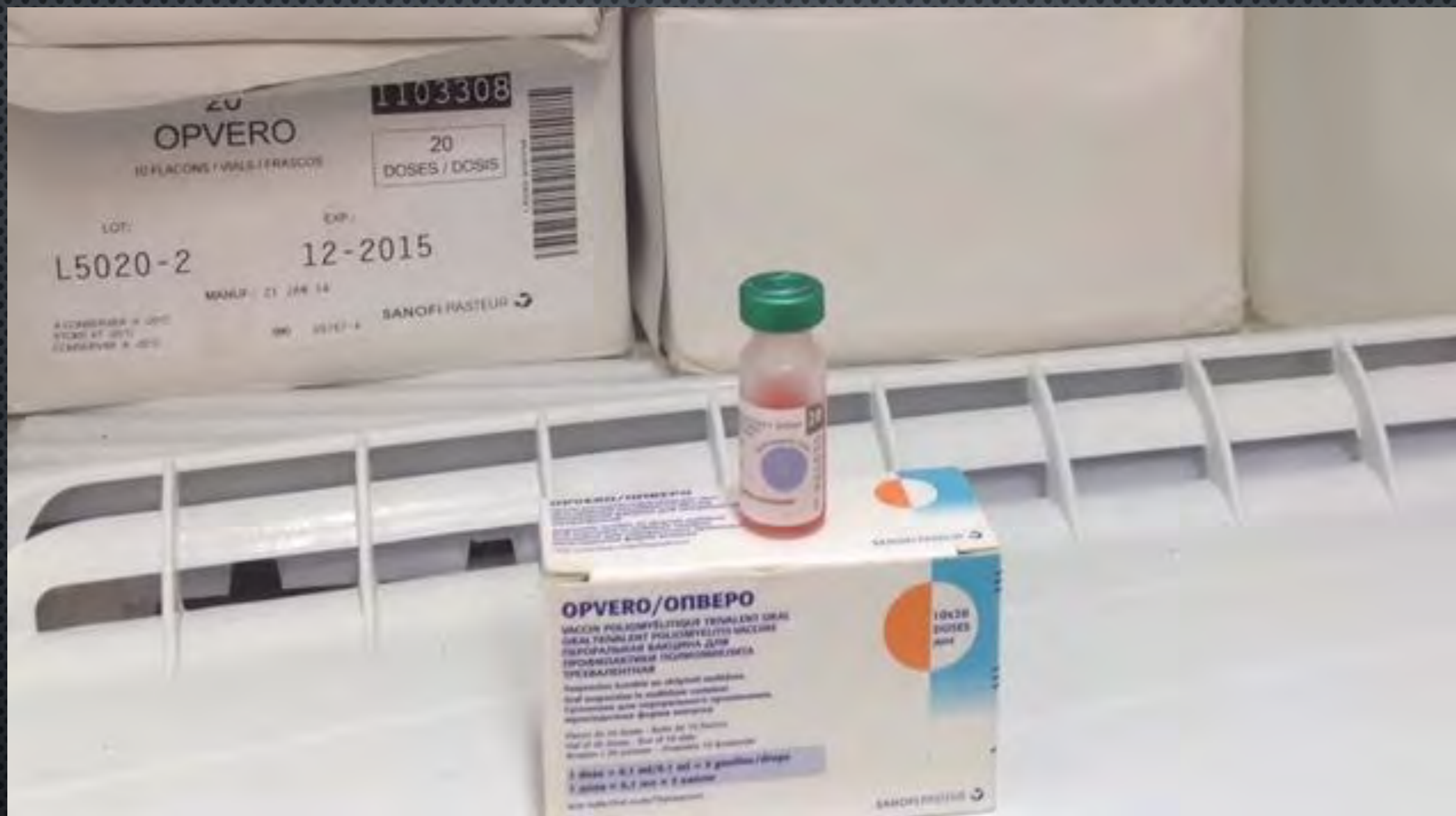
248,000 DOSES POLIO VACCINE PROCURED BY  
WHO & UNICEF EXPIRED DUE TO INCOMPETENT  
STORAGE BY SAVE THE CHILDREN

# EXPIRED, SOLD OR WASTED: UN AID IN SYRIA

FOOD, MEDICINE, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL  
SUPPLIES ARE OFTEN DAMAGED,  
EXPIRED, AND FOUND IN COMMERCIAL  
MARKETS



WFP AID SOLD IN DAMASCUS CITY MARKET, AUGUST



EXPIRED POLIO VACCINES IN GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITY, IDLEB CITY 2015



Syrian military forces stockpiles of UNHCR, WFP and ICRC food and other relief items were found in a military base in Idleb, May 2015.



UNICEF FAMILY HYGIENE KITS IN AL MASTON MILITARY BASE  
MAY 2015.  
(AL MASTON WAS THE LAST MAJOR SYRIAN ARMY MILITARY  
BASE BEFORE THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT LOST CONTROL OF  
IDLEB GOVERNORATE)

Oct 18-20 2015 UN convoys delivered 'critical' cross-border aid to two hard-to-access government-friendly towns in Idleb. SARC convoys from Damascus delivered UN aid to government-besieged towns in rural Damascus.



The convoy to the civilian town of Mudaya, contained expired high energy biscuits. (320/650 boxes). This was discovered 3 days later after over 200 children subsequently developed food poisoning.





FOOD ITEM WITHIN EXPIRY DATE  
CONTAMINATED BY COCKROACHES

## *U.N. Agency Hires Wife of Top Figure in Syrian War to Assist the Displaced*

By SOMINI SENGUPTA FEB. 24, 2016



UNITED NATIONS — When the [World Health Organization](#) wanted to know how the war in [Syria](#) was affecting the mental health of those forced to flee their homes, the agency hired someone known less for her expertise than for her connections: The consultant, Shukria Mekdad, is the wife of Faisal Mekdad, the deputy foreign minister of Syria and a powerful [defender of the government's war effort](#).

Her appointment has led critics to question the aid agency's impartiality.



**The New York Times**

SYRIA

# Blood and war: How a UN agency cooperates with Assad

By **George Russell**, and Annie Sparrow · Published October 27, 2016 · Fox News



World Blood Dor

# Syrian Conjoined Twins Die While Waiting For Lifesaving Surgery

August 24, 2016 · 4:44 PM ET



Ministry of foreign affairs deliberately delayed the issuing of passports to the twins and their mother

Drafting of supplies list, WHO, other UN agencies and ICRC

First revision, deciding of time, driver sand trucks to be in the convoy, SARC

Second revision of supplies list and issuance of facilitation letter(FL), HRC

Minister of health sign the FL after being reviewed by department of preparedness (DoP).

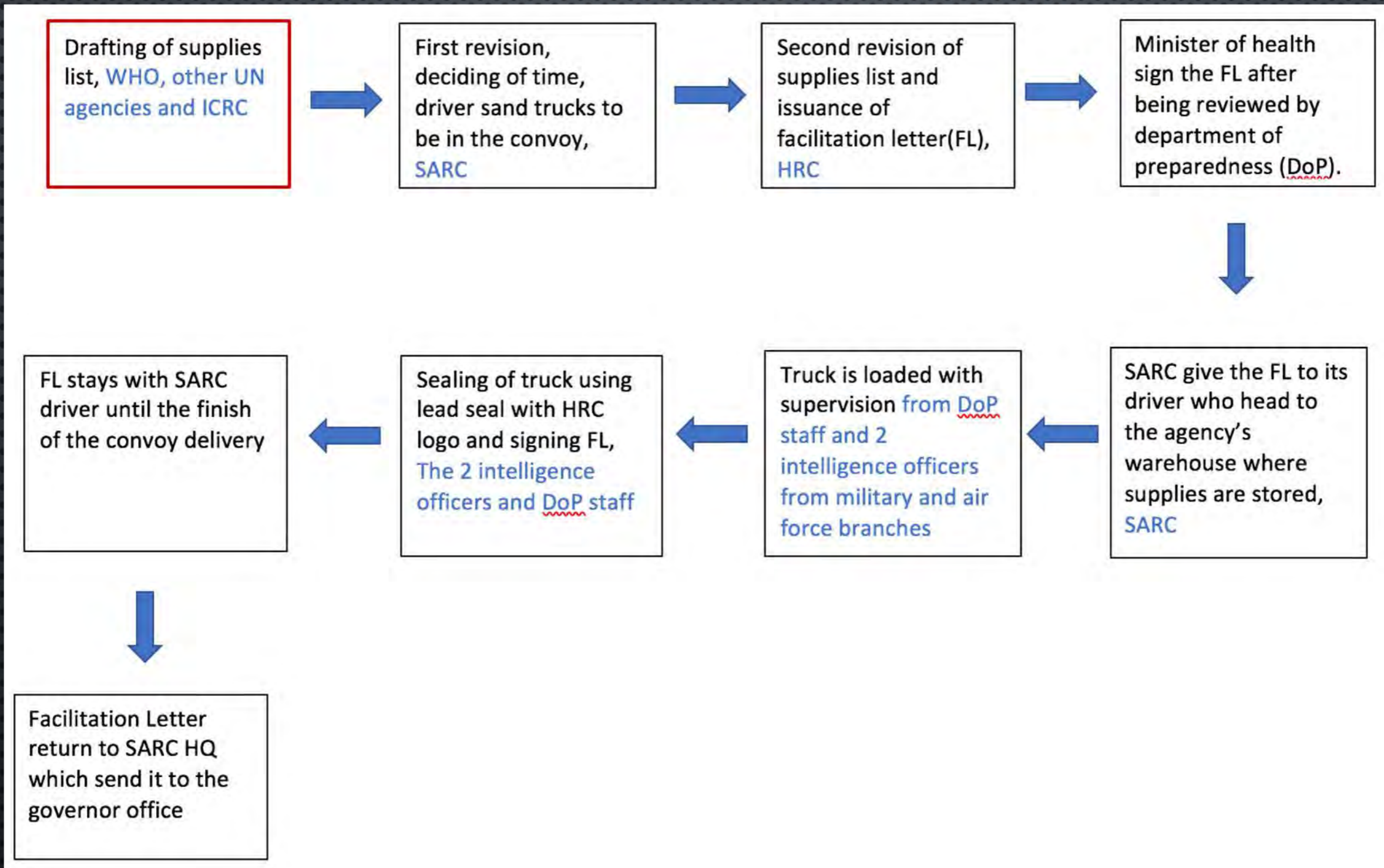
FL stays with SARC driver until the finish of the convoy delivery

Sealing of truck using lead seal with HRC logo and signing FL, The 2 intelligence officers and DoP staff

Truck is loaded with supervision from DoP staff and 2 intelligence officers from military and air force branches

SARC give the FL to its driver who head to the agency's warehouse where supplies are stored, SARC

Facilitation Letter return to SARC HQ which send it to the governor office





**Annie Sparrow** @annie\_sparrow · Mar 6

1/4 Dr. Al Hajjaj al-Sharaa's primary responsibility is to delete life-saving supplies from convoys to Eastern Ghouta & other besieged areas. Facilitation letters allowing medical and surgical supplies must be approved by the Department of Preparedness before convoys are loaded.

### Dr. Al Hajjaj al-Sharaa

Director,  
Department of  
Preparedness,  
Ministry of Health,  
Syrian Arab Republic



1



25



14





Annie Sparrow @annie\_sparrow · Mar 6

2/4 Dr. Al Hajjaj also heads up Al Sham, an Assad-approved local NGO that is in partnership with @WHO, @UNICEF and @UNHCR. He uses his position at the Ministry of Health to facilitate approvals for funding of his humanitarian projects at Al Sham.

List of National NGOs Authorized by MoFA  
31 December 2016

| NGO English name                        | Terr | Leban | Syria | Palest | Yemen | Libya | Democr | South Sudan | Democr | South | Kenya | Burkina | Democr | Other | Total No. of Branch |
|---|------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|--------|-------|---------------------|
| 11 Arabesque Charity Society in Lebanon | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 12 Arabesque Charity                    |      | 1     |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 13 Al-Basma Charity Society             |      | 1     |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 14 Al-Basma Charity Society             | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 15 Al-Golan in Al-Najaf Al-Awsad        |      |       |       | 1      |       |       |        |             |        | 1     |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 16 Al-Hayat Society                     |      |       |       | 1      |       | 1     |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 2                   |
| 17 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 18 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 19 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 20 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 21 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 22 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 23 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
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| 46 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
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| 49 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 50 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 51 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 52 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 53 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 54 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |
| 55 Al-Izzah Islamic Charity Society     | 1    |       |       |        |       |       |        |             |        |       |       |         |        |       | 1                   |

12 5



**Annie Sparrow** @annie\_sparrow · Mar 6

3/4 One of Dr. Al Hajjaj's staff members from the MoH Department of Preparedness checking off convoy items to match it with the Al Hajjaj-approved minimized list [foreignpolicy.com/2018/02/09/hyp...](https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/02/09/hyp...)



MOH STAFF MEMBERS THEN CHECK OFF CONVOY ITEMS BEFORE SENDING- ITEMS WHICH ARE NOT APPROVED BY DR. AL HAJJAJ ARE REMOVED.



- AFTER LOADING OR CONVOY TRUCKS, AIRFORCE AND MILITARY SECURITY OFFICERS SEAL THE TRUCKS WITH THE HIGHER RELIEF COMMITTEE LEAD SEAL



**Mohamad Katoub** @MhdKatoub · Mar 19

The warehouse in #Ghouta where the last UN convoy was off loaded was hit yesterday by an airstrike



AFTER THE LIMITED CONVOY ARRIVES TO BESIEGED AREAS; OFF LOADING AREAS ARE SYSTEMATICALLY TARGETED BY THE REGIME.

17

298

124

