



OIR IN BRIEF

The 35th quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the U.S. mission to defeat ISIS and train, advise, and assist local partners—including the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)—to improve regional stability.

ISIS is Degraded and Operating in Survival Mode

pp. 11–13

- ISIS **attack numbers** continued to **decline**, and become **less sophisticated and complex**, with fewer IEDs and less activity near urban centers.
- ISIS suffered ongoing **leadership and revenue losses** and adopted new tactics to stretch its remaining funds.
- ISIS remained intent on **freeing detained fighters** from SDF detention facilities and **recruiting from displaced persons camps**.

Iraqi Security Forces Improve in Some Capabilities; Key Deficits Persist

pp. 14–25

- The Iraqi operations center integrated **tactical air controllers**, which should allow the ISF to conduct independent air strikes.
- The ISF remained deficient in **mission planning, intelligence gathering, artillery, and logistics**; nearly all its Russian-designed helicopters remained grounded.
- Internal **political divisions** in the **Iraqi Kurdistan Region** continued to thwart efforts to unify Kurdish forces under the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs.

Clashes Erupt Between SDF and Local Tribes

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- CJTF-OIR said clashes between the SDF and aligned Arab tribes could **allow ISIS to resurge**. The clashes also **hindered stabilization** assistance.
- Coalition and SDF forces assessed security at SDF detention facilities that house **9,000 ISIS detainees**. U.S. Forces continued to train security forces for the **al-Hol** displaced persons camp.
- From al-Hol, 355 Syrians departed for Raqqa, and **770** Iraqi and third-party nationals were **repatriated**.

Third Party Forces Complicate the OIR Mission

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- **Türkiye** conducted **military strikes against SDF leaders** in Syria and the Iraqi Kurdistan Region.
- **Russia** continued to **violate deconfliction protocols** with the U.S. military, conducting harassing and dangerous flights around U.S. aircraft and bases.
- During the quarter, **Iran-aligned militias** continued their **pause** on attacks against U.S. and Coalition forces, but remained an ongoing threat.

Iraq Implements New Budget, Faces Social, Infrastructure, and Governance Challenges

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- The Iraqi government began **implementing its new budget**, which increases defense funding, welfare, public sector salaries and jobs, and infrastructure.
- The budget relies on ongoing **high oil prices** and is tied to stalled negotiations between the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Iraqi government.
- Iraq continued to face **water** and **electricity** shortages and steep **unemployment**.
- **Tight bank liquidity** challenged USAID implementers.

Humanitarian Crises, Human Rights Violations Continue in Syria

pp. 54–63

- The U.S. Government continued to support earthquake-impacted locales while addressing **rising food prices** and a key **water station failure**.
- State remained concerned by reports of **human rights abuses** by the SDF and Turkish-supported forces.

Lead IG Oversight

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- The Lead IG agencies published **three oversight reports** related to OIR, including on the DoD's end-use monitoring of sensitive equipment given to the Iraqi government.