Política Internacional e Geopolítica a era da imprevisibilidade

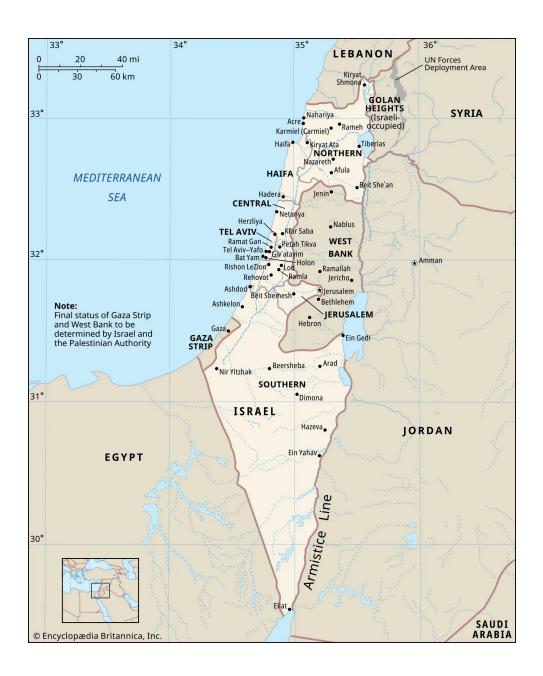
INSTITUTO CULTURAL D. ANTÓNIO FERREIRA GOMES José Pedro Teixeira Fernandes SESSÃO Nº 24 26 / 3 /2025





Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (1)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (2)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



Head Of Government: Prime Minister:

Benjamin Netanyahu

Capital (Proclaimed): Jerusalem; international recognition of its capital status has largely been withheld.

Population: (2025 est.) 9,270,000¹

Currency Exchange Rate: 1 USD

equals 3.736 Israeli shekel

Head Of State: President: Isaac Herzog

Form Of Government: multiparty republic with one legislative house (Knesset [120])

Official Language: Hebrew³

Official Religion: none

Official Name: Medinat Yisra'el

(Hebrew); Dawlat Isrā'īl (Arabic) (State

of Israel)

Total Area (Sq Km): 22,072²

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (3)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (4)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



Palestinian Authority (PA), governing body of the Palestinian autonomous regions in the West Bank.

Established in 1994 as part of the Oslo Accords peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the PA also has de jure governing authority over the entirety of the Gaza Strip, but it has not exercised de facto control there since 2007, when Hamas took control of the region by force. Although the

Quick Facts

Formally: Palestinian National Authority or Arabic: al-Sulţah al-Waţaniyyah al-

Filasţīniyyah

Self-declared: State of Palestine or

Arabic: Dawlat Filasţīn

Date: 1994 - present

Related People: Yasser Arafat •

Mahmoud Abbas • Marwan Barghouti •

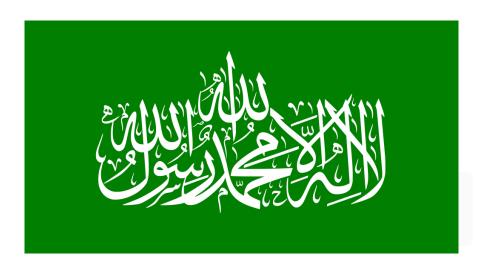
Ismail Haniyeh • Salam Fayyad

See all related content

PA was, until then, democratic, Pres. <u>Mahmoud Abbas</u> has since ruled by decree and indefinitely delayed elections. By 2011 the PA had built up institutions for a functioning state, but it later suffered repeated financial crises under pressure from Israel and others.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (5)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



Hamas, militant <u>Palestinian</u> nationalist and <u>Islamist</u> movement in the <u>West Bank</u> and <u>Gaza Strip</u> that is dedicated to the establishment of an independent Islamic state in historical <u>Palestine</u>. Founded in 1987, Hamas opposed the <u>secular</u> approach of the <u>Palestine</u> <u>Liberation Organization</u> (PLO) to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, rejected attempts to cede any part of Palestine, and embraced the use of violence, including acts of <u>terrorism</u>, as a means to achieve its goals. See <u>Israel-Hamas War of 2023</u> for an overview of the October 7 assault on Israel from the Gaza Strip by Hamas and the

Quick Facts

Also spelled: Hamās

Acronym of: Ḥarakat al-Muqāwamah

al-Islāmiyyah

English: Islamic Resistance Movement

Date: 1987 - present

Areas Of Involvement: Islam • nationalism • intifada • Islamic

fundamentalism

Related People: Yahya Sinwar • Khaled

Meshaal • Ismail Haniyeh

See all related content

Show Less

<u>Palestinian Islamic Jihad</u> (PIJ) that resulted in more than 1,200 deaths, primarily Israeli citizens, making it the deadliest day for Israel since its independence.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (6)

[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]

Why did Netanyahu end the Gaza ceasefire?

Why did Netanyahu end the Gaza ceasefire?



The wave of Israeli strikes that <u>killed hundreds of Palestinians</u> across the Gaza Strip early Tuesday was the culmination of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's efforts to get out of the ceasefire with Hamas that he agreed to in January.

Since the start of the war, Netanyahu has faced dueling, possibly incompatible pressures: <u>Families of the hostages</u> want him to cut a deal with Hamas to free them, while his far-right coalition partners want to continue the war with the aim of annihilating the militant group.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (7)

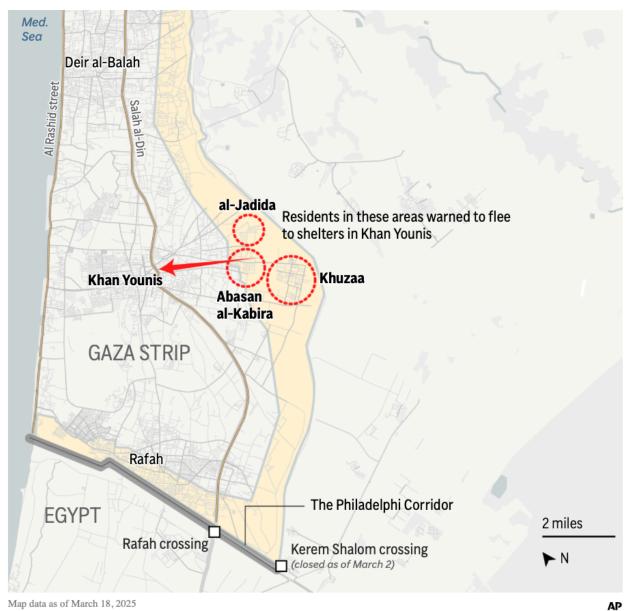
[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]

Israel tells Gaza residents to evacuate newly designated combat zone



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (8)

[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (9)

[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]

On Tuesday, he appeared to cast his lot with the latter — and U.S. President Donald Trump's administration has backed Netanyahu's decision to unilaterally walk away from the ceasefire it took credit for brokering.

Both Israel and the United States blame the renewed hostilities on Hamas' refusal to release more hostages before negotiations on ending the war proceed — which was not part of the ceasefire agreement. Israel has accused Hamas of preparing for new attacks, without providing evidence. The militant group has denied those allegations.

Hamas — which has yet to respond militarily to the Israeli strikes — has spent weeks calling for serious talks on the <u>ceasefire agreement's</u> second

phase, which calls for the release of the remaining living hostages in exchange for more Palestinian prisoners, a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and a lasting ceasefire.

Those talks were supposed to begin in early February. Now they may never happen.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (10)

[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]

What did the ceasefire agreement say?

The agreement reached in January, under pressure from the outgoing Biden administration and the incoming Trump one, called for a phased ceasefire aimed at freeing all the hostages abducted in Hamas' Oct 7, 2023, attack and ending the war it caused.

Under the first phase, which ran from Jan. 19 to March 1, Hamas released

25 Israeli hostages and the bodies of eight others in return for nearly 1,800 Palestinian prisoners, including senior militants serving life sentences for deadly attacks. Israeli forces pulled back to a buffer zone, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians returned to what remained of their homes, and there was a surge of humanitarian aid.

Each side accused the other of violations, and Israeli strikes killed dozens of Palestinians the military accused of engaging in militant activities or entering no-go zones. But the truce held.

Still, the second phase was always seen as far more difficult.

Through months of negotiations, Netanyahu had repeatedly cast doubt on it, insisting Israel was committed to returning all the hostages and destroying Hamas' military and governing capabilities — two war goals that many believe are irreconcilable.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (11)

[FONTE: AP News, 18/03/2025]

Why did Netanyahu back out of the ceasefire?

Agreeing to a permanent ceasefire would almost certainly plunge Netanyahu into a political crisis that could end his nearly uninterrupted 15year rule.

Far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich had threatened to leave the coalition if Netanyahu progressed to Phase 2 instead of restarting the offensive. Opposition parties have promised to support him in any agreement that brings back hostages, but his coalition would still be severely weakened, making early elections likely.

By resuming the fighting, Netanyahu ensured Smotrich's continued support. After the strikes, the Israeli leader regained another far-right partner, Itamar Ben-Gvir, whose party had bolted in January over the ceasefire but returned to the coalition Tuesday.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (12)

[FONTE: Haaretz, 20/03/2025]

Hamas Demanding an End to the Gaza War, Using Israeli Hostages as Its Only Bargaining Chip - Israel News - Haaretz.com

"Hamas once again made it clear that's it willing to discuss any proposal based on ending the war, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is still opposed to that. Consequently, the group's options are limited – either die with the hostages, or wait until pressure from their families in Israel stops the onslaught. As far as Hamas is concerned, there's no going back. There will be no surrender, no disarmament and no deal for the hostages' return unless it includes an end to the war and a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. This time, like the biblical Samson, Hamas' leaders are saying, "Let me die with the Philistines."

Hamas already executed hostages. The remaining 20 are their last pawn, (without regarding their own people as pawns)....I think, if Hamas will not surrender, we will have another Raqqa, Mosul.....where ISIS has had to flee or to surrender...

Ellizza, prior to Oct 7, Israel had, according to UN statistics, killed 20 times as many Palestinians as the number of Israelis killed by Palestinians. Now that ratio must be 50:1 at least, rising daily. All that went before Oct 7 was ignored after that date. Nobody mentioned the "mowing the grass" operations by Israel into Gaza, far less anything before that. No, Oct. 7 was the start of history, Israelis the original victims, Palestinian dead, right back to 1948, forgotten because, well, they aren't human beings, right?

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (13)

[FONTE: Jerusalem Post, 21/03/2025]

Egypt willing to temporarily absorb half a million evacuated Gazans - Lebanese report

According to the report, the Gazans would be allocated a city in the North of the Sinai Peninsula.

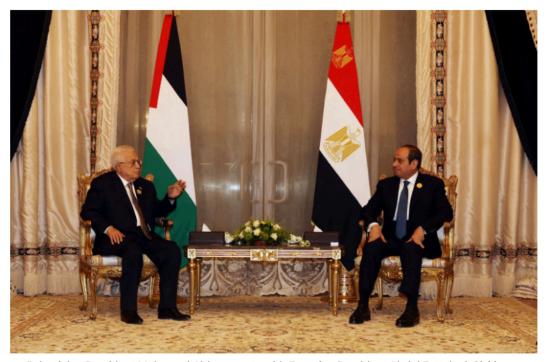
Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi said that his country was ready to temporarily host half a million Gazans who would be evacuated from the Gaza Strip, according to a Friday report by Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese newspaper *Al-Akhbar*.

According to the report, the Gazans would be allocated a city in the North of the Sinai Peninsula.

The comment reportedly came during a conference held in Riyadh, <u>Saudi Arabia</u>, on the situation in the Middle East, in which the Egyptian leader was present, among other attendees.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (14)

[FONTE: Jerusalem Post, 21/03/2025]



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas meets with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in Cairo, Egypt. March 4, 2025. (credit: Palestinian President Office/Handout via REUTERS)

Trump's plan

In early February, <u>US President Donald Trump</u> announced his Gaza relocation plan during a press conference with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House in Washington.

The plan proposed to relocate Gazans to neighboring Arab countries such as Egypt and Jordan and for the United States to take over the Gaza Strip.

Later in February, the US president said he would "recommend" his Gaza plan but would not force it in an interview with Fox News.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (15)

[FONTE: Jerusalem Post, 21/03/2025]

In early March, Egypt announced its \$53 billion reconstruction plan for Gaza. The proposal, adopted by the Arab summit, countered that of Trump and rejected the proposal to relocate Palestinians from the Strip.

The proposal would allow Palestinians to remain in Gaza during a five-year phased approach to reconstructing Gaza, with a focus on rebuilding infrastructure, housing, and essential services.

Later in March, Trump appeared to walk back on his plan, noting "nobody is expelling any Palestinians from Gaza" during a meeting with Irish Prime Minister Micheál Martin at the White House.

Egypt's foreign ministry subsequently said it appreciated the US president's statement on not calling for Gazans to leave.

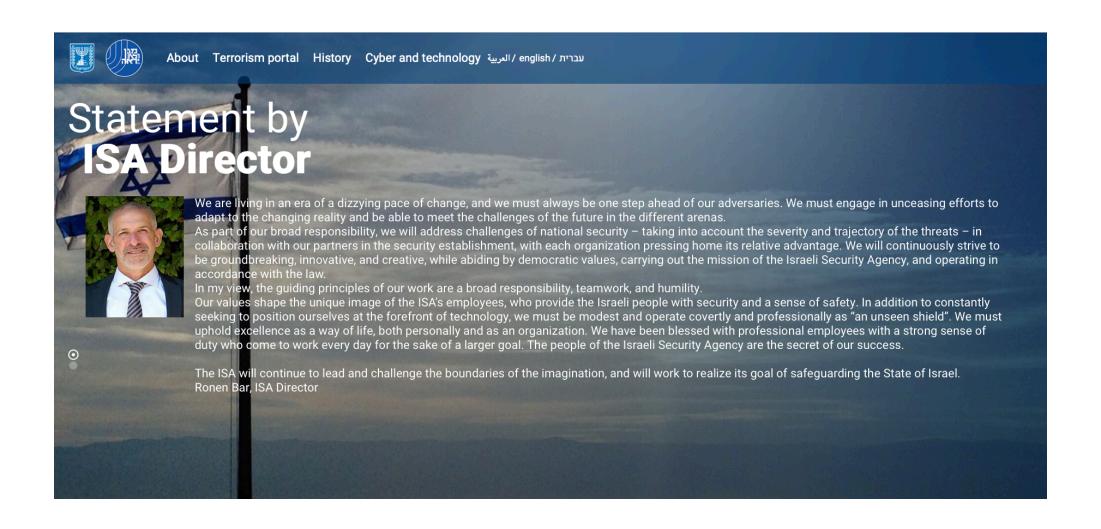
Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (16)

[FONTE: Agência de Segurança de Israel /Shin Bet]



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (17)

[FONTE: Agência de Segurança de Israel /Shin Bet]



Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (18)

[FONTE: Jewish Press Desk, 11/10/2021]

Cabinet Appoints Harvard Graduate Ronen Bar as New Shin Bet Chief

<u>Jewish Press News Desk</u> 6 Heshvan 5782 – October 11, 2021

Bar served in the IDF in the General Staff Reconnaissance Unit special force (Sayeret Matkal) and was later recruited to the Shin Bet where he served in an operational role.

In his many years of defending the security of Israel, Bar commanded many operations in the Gaza Strip, Judea and Samaria, and Lebanon that received several security citations. In 2011, he was appointed Head of Shin Bet Operations. In 2016, he led the task force responsible for building up the agency, and in 2018 was appointed Deputy Director.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett welcomed the new Shin Bet chief, saying: "Ronen is a brave fighter and a daring commander who, throughout his life, has dealt with the highest mission of all – defending the security of Israel. He risked his life for the homeland more than once.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (19)

[FONTE: Times of Israel, 21/03/2025]

Cabinet fires Shin Bet chief; PM claims lack of trust in Bar, who calls move invalid

In letter to ministers, Ronen Bar says Netanyahu intentionally sabotaged hostage deal, warns his ouster risks undermining investigation into Qatari influence in premier's office



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's cabinet voted unanimously in the early hours of Friday morning to dismiss Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar, the premier's office announced.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (20)

[FONTE: Times of Israel, 21/03/2025]

The move marked the first time in Israeli history that the government has fired the head of the domestic security agency.

Netanyahu told the cabinet in a meeting that started late Thursday night that he lost faith in Bar after the October 7, 2023, Hamas assault on southern Israel.

Bar is "soft" and "not the right person to rehabilitate the organization," Netanyahu said, according to his office.

"I have been managing diplomatic negotiations for many years," continued Netanyahu. "He had a soft approach and was not aggressive enough."

He claimed that since replacing Bar on the negotiating team with another senior Shin Bet official, "the leaks have decreased dramatically, and through very successful negotiations we have managed to return the hostages."

The ceasefire and hostage deal with Hamas was signed in January, weeks before Netanyahu removed Bar from the negotiating team, which has not secured the release of any additional hostages since then.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (21)

[FONTE: Times of Israel, 21/03/2025]

As ministers deliberated, the Shin Bet <u>circulated</u> a letter Bar sent to the cabinet explaining why he wouldn't attend the meeting. He blasted the government's "unfounded claims that are nothing more than a cover for completely different, extraneous and fundamentally invalid motives designed to disrupt the ability of the Shin Bet to fulfill its role."

He warned that Netanyahu was taking steps that weaken the country "both internally and against its enemies."

Saying that he and Netanyahu worked effectively to bring about January's hostage release deal with Hamas and a series of operational successes on Israel's southern and northern war fronts, Bar said there was no basis for the premier's insistence that there is no trust between them, "except if the real intention, which I apparently failed to understand, was to negotiate without reaching a deal."

He added that Netanyahu's decision to remove him and Mossad chief

David Barnea from the hostage negotiations "harmed the team and did not advance the release at all."

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (22)

[FONTE: Axios, 16/03/2025]

Netanyahu moves to fire intel chief who is investigating his aides

Barak Ravid



Netanyahu attends his corruption trial on March 12. Photo: Yair Sagi/Pool/AFP via Getty

Israeli Prime Minister <u>Benjamin Netanyahu</u> has decided to remove Ronen Bar as head of the Shin Bet domestic security agency and will seek cabinet approval for the move this week, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

Why it matters: No government has ever fired the head of the Shin Bet, Israel's most powerful security agency. Netanyahu's decision comes as the agency is investigating two of his advisers for allegedly receiving payments from Qatar during the Israel-Hamas war.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (23)

[FONTE: Axios, 16/03/2025]

The big picture: While the prime minister appoints the Shin Bet chief, and the cabinet approves the pick, the agency has long been seen as apolitical. Its mandate includes safeguarding Israel's democratic institutions.

- Netanyahu is on trial in three cases of bribery, fraud and breach of trust.
- He has also started <u>taking steps</u> to fire the attorney general tasked with prosecuting those cases.
- Netanyahu's aides have said he was inspired by <u>President Trump's</u>
 <u>purging</u> of "the deep state" and his decision to appoint loyalists to all
 key posts.

Behind the scenes: Netanyahu has been pressing Bar for several weeks to resign. Bar refused and told Netanyahu he can fire him if he wants to, an Israeli official tells Axios.

- Netanyahu's loyalists in the Israeli press and on social media have been publicly attacking Bar, who spent two decades in the Shin Bet before being appointed director in 2021.
- Netanyahu's allies have claimed the intel chief is working to undermine the PM for political reasons.
- In his statement, Bar said he'd told Netanyahu he had "several sensitive investigations" to complete, as well as getting Israel's remaining hostages out, before offering the prime minister his resignation and offering two internal candidates to succeed him. He said he still intends to complete those tasks before stepping down.

Israel e o regresso da guerra em Gaza (24)

[FONTE: Times of Israel, 19/03/2025]

Bennett: PM must quit over Qatari payments to aide; if received knowingly, it's 'treason'

Former PM calls out Netanyahu for 'cover-up' of scandal and resistance to investigation; Likud retorts that he's a 'crook' for building 2021 coalition with Arab party Ra'am



Former prime minister Naftali Bennett on Wednesday said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu no longer has the moral authority to send troops into battle and must resign, in the wake of new allegations that the salary of one of his top aides was paid by Qatar.

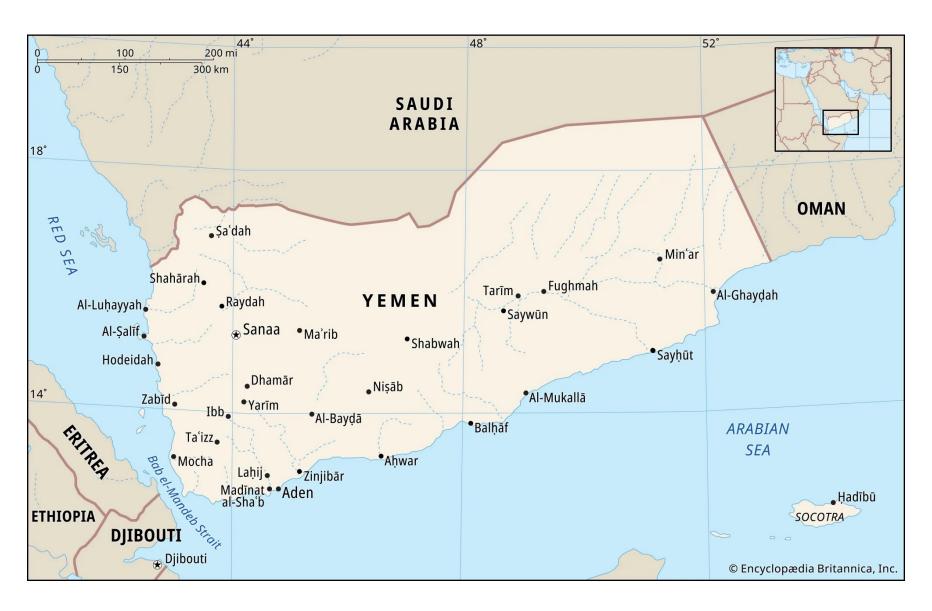
A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (1)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (2)

[FONTE: Encyclopaedia Britannica]



A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (3)

[FONTE: BBC, 15/03/2024]

Who are the Houthis and why are they attacking Red Sea ships?

15 March 2024

Houthi rebels have launched more than 40 attacks on commercial ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden since November.

The Houthis are an Iranian-backed rebel group which considers Israel an enemy.

In response to the war in the Gaza Strip, the Houthis started firing drones and missiles towards Israel. Most have been intercepted.

On 19 November, the Houthis <u>hijacked a commercial ship</u> in the Red Sea.

They have since launched dozens of missile and drone attacks on commercial ships. Of these, 34 have resulted in reported damage to vessels.

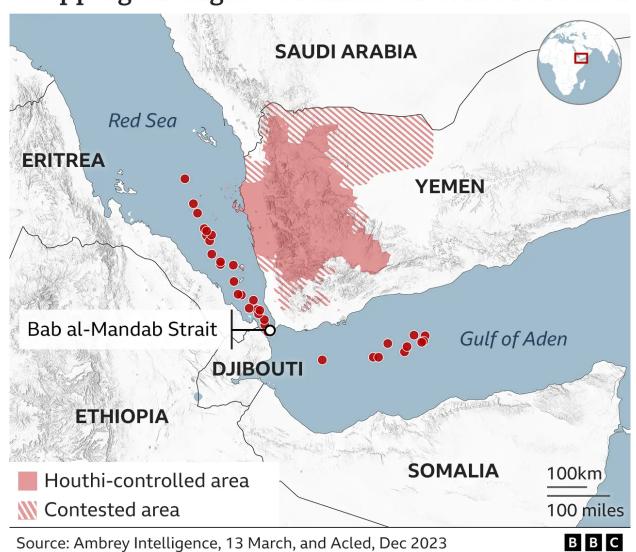
US-led naval forces have thwarted many attacks.

The Houthis initially said they were attacking ships connected with Israel, or heading to or from there. However, many of the vessels have no connection with Israel.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (4)

[FONTE: BBC, 15/03/2024]

Shipping damaged in attacks off coast of Yemen



A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (5)

[FONTE: NYT, 19/03/2024]

Trump Says Houthis in Yemen Will Be 'Annihilated,' as U.S. Keeps Up Strikes

The president warned Iran to stop arming the militant group, which has been attacking ships in the Red Sea.



Smoke plumes rose Wednesday above the Houthi-controlled Yemeni capital, Sana, after it was bombarded. Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (6)

[FONTE: NYT, 19/03/2024]

"Tremendous damage has been inflicted," Mr. Trump said of the effects of the strikes, which began on Saturday. He added: "Watch how it will get progressively worse. It's not even a fair fight, and never will be. They will be completely annihilated!"

Earlier on Wednesday, the U.S. Central Command posted a video showing American fighter jets shooting down Houthi attack drones. The military has been striking the group's training sites, command centers and weapons facilities since the weekend in what it says is an attempt to restore freedom of navigation in regional waters.

The Houthis have been targeting Israel and attacking ships in the Red Sea in solidarity with the armed Palestinian group Hamas, which is also backed by Iran and led the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel that set off the war in Gaza.

After Israel and Hamas agreed to a temporary cease-fire in January, the Yemeni militants suspended their campaign. But they vowed to <u>resume</u> <u>attacks</u> as truce talks faltered and Israel <u>blocked humanitarian aid from entering the Gaza Strip</u> this month.

Mr. Trump said on Saturday that he had ordered the military to launch "decisive and powerful" actions against the militia, which controls most of northern Yemen. He said the Houthis "have waged an unrelenting campaign of piracy, violence and terrorism" against American ships and other vessels, attacks he said were funded by Iran. The strikes, he added, were intended also as a warning to Iran.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (7)

[FONTE: Keith Johnson / Foreign Policy, 18/03/2025]

Trump Dramatically Escalates Military Strikes on Yemen's Houthis

It's unclear what the U.S. president's ultimate aims are—or whether increased military action will be enough to neutralize the Houthi threat.



Plumes of smoke billow up around the mast of a military ship flying the U.S. flag. A bright burst of light is visible at the top of the image, radiating beams of light through the smoke and backlighting the silhouette of the ship.

A ship fires missiles at an undisclosed location after U.S. President Donald Trump launched military strikes against Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis on March 15. U.S. Central Command/Handout via Reuters

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (8)

[FONTE: Keith Johnson / Foreign Policy, 18/03/2025]

The bigger question is whether the ramped-up U.S. military campaign will bring the Houthi threat to heel, or just become an expensive game of whack-a-mole. (One European naval expert, who spoke to *Foreign Policy* on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of U.S.-NATO security discussions, described the new campaign simply as "madness.")

"I'm skeptical," said James Holmes, a professor at the U.S. Naval War College, who cast doubt on the utility of naval airpower to cow land-based, nonstate actors. He questioned whether running down precious stocks of the pricey munitions needed for a possible future war in the Pacific is the best use of finite U.S. resources.

To really root out the Houthis would require more than a few Tomahawks and airstrikes, and a whole lot more commitment than Trump, or the U.S. public, has demonstrated so far.

"You have to be there—on the field of battle, grappling with the foe—in order to win," Holmes said.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (9)

[FONTE: Axios, 19/03/2025. IMAGEM: Foundation for Defense of Democracies]

Scoop: Trump's letter to Iran included 2-month deadline for new nuclear deal



President Trump's <u>letter</u> to Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei included a two-month deadline for reaching a new nuclear deal, one U.S. official and two sources briefed on the letter told Axios.

Why it matters: It isn't clear whether the two-month clock begins from the time the letter was delivered or from when negotiations start. But if Iran rejects Irump's outreach and doesn't negotiate, the chances of U.S. or Israeli military action against Iran's nuclear facilities would dramatically increase.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (10)

[FONTE: Axios, 19/03/2025]

The big picture: Iran's <u>nuclear program</u> has advanced over the past four years and it is closer than ever to producing a nuclear weapon.

- Its stockpile of 60% enriched uranium is enough for six nuclear bombs if enriched to 90%, according to the <u>International Atomic</u> <u>Energy Agency</u>.
- Iran has denied it is pursuing nuclear weapons.

Catch up quick: Two weeks ago in an interview with Fox News' Maria Bartiromo, Trump <u>revealed</u> that he sent a letter to the Iranian leader proposing direct negotiations.

- A day later Trump said the U.S. is "down to the final moments" with Iran.
- "We can't let them have a nuclear weapon. Something is going to happen very soon. I would rather have a peace deal than the other option, but the other option will solve the problem," he said.
- The letter was delivered a few days ago by Trump envoy Steve
 Witkoff to the president of the United Arab Emirates Mohammed Bin
 Zayed (MBZ) in a meeting in Abu Dhabi.
- A day later, MBZ's envoy Anwar Gargash traveled to Tehran and gave the letter to Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (11)

[FONTE: Axios, 19/03/2025]

Behind the scenes: The sources said Trump's letter to Khamenei was "tough." On the one hand, it proposed negotiations on a new nuclear deal, but on the other hand warned of consequences if Iran rejects the offer and continues to push forward with its nuclear program.

- Trump said in the letter that he doesn't want open-ended negotiations and mentioned a two-month period for getting a deal, two sources said.
- Before the letter was delivered to the Iranians, the White House briefed several U.S. allies, including Israel, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, about its contents, a U.S. official and a source with knowledge told Axios.
- The White House declined to comment. The Iranian mission to the UN did not respond to requests for comment.

A guerra Israel-Hamas e os Houthis do Iémen (12)

[FONTE: Axios, 19/03/2025]

What to watch: Iran's Foreign Ministry said in a briefing with reporters earlier this week that Trump's letter is still being studied and Iran's response is being drafted.

- Trump said on Monday that the U.S. will consider any further attacks by the Houthis in Yemen as emanating from Iran and <u>threatened</u> the Iranian government with "dire consequences." <u>Iran has said</u> it doesn't control the Houthis.
- In a <u>post on Truth Social</u> on Wednesday, Trump said there are reports
 that Iran is reducing its military support for the Houthis but "they are
 still sending large levels of Supplies." He reiterated his call for Iran to
 stop supplying the Houthis.
- Trump's national security adviser Mike Waltz <u>said</u> on Sunday that Iran needs to "hand over and give up" all elements of its nuclear program, including missiles, weaponization and enrichment of uranium, "or they can face a whole series of other consequences," adding, "Iran

has been offered a way out of this."





A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (1)

[FONTE: Dimitar Bechev / Foreign Policy, 19/03/2025]

Turkey Wants to Be a European Power Now

Ankara is preparing to send peacekeeping troops to Ukraine—and to deepen ties with the EU.



Turks wave national and EU flags as Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan arrives at Ataturk International Airport in Istanbul on Dec. 18, 2004.

Turks wave national and EU flags as Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan arrives at Ataturk International Airport in Istanbul on Dec. 18, 2004. MUSTAFA OZER/AFP via Getty Images

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (2)

[FONTE: Dimitar Bechev / Foreign Policy, 19/03/2025]

The message Europeans hear among Turkish officials these days is surprise that anyone would be shocked at U.S. President Donald Trump's revisionist foreign policy. For Turkey, the United States has never been a reliable friend. But there is also little trace of schadenfreude. The prospect

of Trump's America gifting Ukraine to Russian President Vladimir Putin and wrecking NATO is as troubling for Turkey as it is for the European Union and the United Kingdom.

But Turkish policymakers also see the ongoing crisis as an opportunity to reset ties with Europe. Turkey has been openly flexing its muscles in the Middle East, where the fall of the Assad regime in Syria has enhanced its influence. But it is also quietly becoming more aware of itself as a key stakeholder in European security, too.

There are early signs of a deepening security conversation between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's team and its European counterparts. Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan attended the emergency summit on Ukraine convened by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on March 2, two days after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky clashed with Trump and U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance at the White House. Turkey has become part of the "coalition of the willing" headed by Starmer and French President Emmanuel Macron.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (3)

[FONTE: Dimitar Bechev / Foreign Policy, 19/03/2025]

After a summit on March 6 hosted by the EU, Erdogan signaled that Turkish troops could eventually be deployed in Ukraine. Last week, military chiefs from more than 30 countries held talks in Paris to discuss Ukraine's security and the possibility of an international peacekeeping force—an idea championed by France and the U.K. Erdogan is nurturing ties with other key countries, too. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk was in Ankara on March 12 to discuss Ukraine and European security.

To be sure, it is still early, and the shape and mission of a European-led force remains shrouded in uncertainty. Much hinges on Trump's ongoing effort to convince Putin to agree to a cease-fire. However, if some sort of deal is cut, Turkey could play a major part in making it stick. Having extended steadfast support to Ukraine since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022, but also having kept ties to Russia and even having led mediation efforts, Turkey's military presence would likely be acceptable to both parties. While Moscow has lashed out at the idea of European peacekeepers, it has been silent on Turkey.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (4)

[FONTE: Dimitar Bechev / Foreign Policy, 19/03/2025]

Instead, some form of the privileged partnership that Europe's Christian Democrats envisaged for Turkey years ago as an alternative to accession is now in the works. Access to a deepened European Customs Union could be one pillar. Security collaboration, in Ukraine but also on issues such as defense procurement or rebuilding Syria, could be another.

Turning from a candidate to a partner won't necessarily amount to a loss of face either. With the U.K., another strategically important country that's also outside the EU, Turkey need not feel like a second-rate member of the club. Whatever the weather, Ankara is a top player in NATO as well as the European Political Community that is due to hold its annual summit in Albania on May 16.

Moving beyond the enlargement paradigm is not cost-free. The EU won't be empowered to hold Turkey accountable for failure to uphold the rule of law and democratic norms. That includes complying with the European Court of Human Rights' ruling on the landmark case of philanthropist Osman Kavala.

Yet, realistically, the EU has long lost its leverage over domestic politics in Turkey. A return to full-fledged democracy depends on citizens and elites, not conditionality. But amid the doom and gloom, there are some glimmers of hope: Erdogan's loss in Turkey's 2024 local elections and, more recently, the prospective end to the conflict in the country's Kurdish-populated southeastern provinces.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (5)

[FONTE: Tuvan Gumrukcu / Reuters, 13/03/2025]

Turkey could be a vital partner as Europe, Ukraine seek new security framework

Analysts say Europeans' push to maintain Ukraine's military capabilities and agree security guarantees, while boosting its own defence without Washington, has created a rare opportunity for Turkey to deepen ties with Europe despite lingering disputes over the rule of law, maritime issues with Greece and Cyprus, and Ankara's long stalled European Union membership bid.

"European countries that thought they had the luxury of excluding Turkey until today are now seeing that they cannot exclude Turkey anymore" said Sinan Ulgen, a former Turkish diplomat and director of the Centre for Economic and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM).

Speaking after <u>talks</u> with Erdogan in Ankara on Wednesday, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said he brought a "clear proposal for Turkey to take on the greatest possible co-responsibility" for peace in Ukraine and regional stability.

A senior European diplomat said Turkey had "very important views" on what is needed for peace in Ukraine.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan had managed to balance his relationship between Zelenskiy and Russian President Vladimir Putin during the war, the diplomat said, "so it makes sense to have him on board."

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (6)

[FONTE: Tuvan Gumrukcu / Reuters, 13/03/2025]

NATO member Turkey has the alliance's second largest army. It has begun producing its own jets, tanks, and naval carriers in recent years, and sells armed drones globally, including to Ukraine. Its defence industry exports totalled \$7.1 billion in 2024.

In a blizzard of talks and decisions since Trump's return in January, several European nations discussed forming a "coalition of the willing" to help Ukraine. France has offered to consider extending its nuclear umbrella to allies.

Erdogan and Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan have said Europe must include Turkey in the restructure of its security architecture in a "sustainable and deterrent" way.

A Turkish official, who requested anonymity, said there were no clear plans yet on a new European security architecture or Turkey's possible contributions to it, but certain steps could advance cooperation.

"Instead of including Turkey in projects in an 'a la carte' way, it would be more logical (for Europe) to seek partnerships in a more holistic way. For example, they can start by including Turkey in the European Peace Facility programme," the official told Reuters, referring to an EU initiative

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (7)

[FONTE: European Council on Foreign Affairs, 18/03/2025]

Bridging the Bosphorus: How Europe and Turkey can turn tiffs into tactics in the Black Sea

18 March 2025



16 warships of the Turkish Naval Forces pass through the Bosphorus within the scope of the Anniversary of the Preveza Naval Victory and Naval Forces Day in Istanbul, Turkiye on September 27, 2024

picture alliance / Anadolu | Cemal Yurttas

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (8)

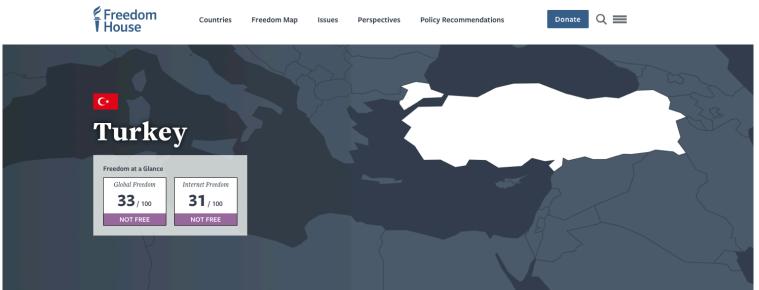
[FONTE: European Council on Foreign Affairs, 18/03/2025]

Summary

- Turkey and Russia are the dominant powers in the Black Sea. They
 maintain a delicate balance of competition and cooperation as each
 seeks to contain the other but also to avoid triggering a war.
- Turkey's cautious approach towards Russia has led it to prioritise regional stability over alignment with EU and NATO policies, straining relations with the West.
- As Europe faces shifting US policies and the challenge of containing a post-war Russia, renewed cooperation with Turkey is essential. The Black Sea could be the first step.
- NATO should prioritise mini-partnerships with Ankara in the Black
 Sea, using Turkey's preference for regional cooperation with Romania
 and Bulgaria over high-profile engagements with non-coastal allies.
- The EU should foster collaboration in areas of mutual interest—such as Black Sea security, Caucasus stability and defence-industrial cooperation—to improve its relations with Turkey.
- A pragmatic reset in Turkey-EU relations could enhance each side's ability to contain Russia, a shared goal, and include Turkey in the post-Ukraine war European security architecture.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (9)

[FONTE: Freedom House]



President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and his Justice and Development Party (AKP), which have ruled Turkey since 2002, have become increasingly authoritarian in recent years, consolidating significant power through constitutional changes and by imprisoning opponents and critics.

Research & Recommendations



A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (10)

[FONTE: WSJ, 19/03/2025. IMAGEM: Municipalidade Metropolitina de Istambul]

Turkey Detains Erdogan's Top Rival in Dawn Raid on Opposition

Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu and dozens more are being held on criminal and terrorism charges





Turkish authorities moved against the country's main opposition party on Wednesday, detaining President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's top rival and dozens of other people in a move that could help extend his two decades in power.

The detentions could have far-reaching implications for the future of democracy in the strategically located North Atlantic Treaty Organization member, where Erdogan has amassed enormous authority. Other key politicians, journalists and activists have been jailed in recent years amid a widening clampdown on the opposition.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (11)

[FONTE: NYT, 19/03/2025]

Turkey Arrests Istanbul Mayor, Erdogan's Top Political Rival

The mayor, Ekrem Imamoglu, was detained after prosecutors accused him of corruption and terrorism. The opposition said the arrest was politically motivated.

March 19, 2025

Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu of Istanbul is the top political rival of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and was set to be named the opposition's presidential candidate. Emrah Gurel/Associated Press

Turkey arrested the top political rival of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on accusations of corruption and terrorism on Wednesday, days before he was set to be named the opposition's candidate in the next presidential election.

The opposition blasted the arrest of the rival, Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu of Istanbul, as politically motivated and said that the government was trying to remove a potential political threat to Mr. Erdogan.

Mr. Imamoglu, 54, accused Mr. Erdogan, his associates and state prosecutors of orchestrating his arrest.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (12)

[FONTE: Reuters, 21/03/2025]

Turkey warns against growing street protests over detained mayor



A person walks past a banner with an image of Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, as people take part in a protest against the detention of Imamoglu, in Istanbul, Turkey, March 20, 2025. REUTERS/Umit Bektas Purchase Licensing Rights

ANKARA, March 21 (Reuters) - Turkey's government warned on Friday against "illegal" calls from the main opposition for street protests over the detention of Istanbul's mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, after thousands demonstrated across the country in the last two days.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said 53 people were detained and 16 police officers were injured in protests that began at university campuses, Istanbul municipal headquarters and elsewhere on Thursday, triggering scattered clashes.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (13)

[FONTE: Reuters, 21/03/2025]

Imamoglu, who is President Tayyip Erdogan's main political rival and leads him in some polls, was <u>detained on Wednesday</u> facing charges including graft and aiding a terrorist group.

The mayor's main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) has condemned the move as politically-motivated and urged people to lawfully demonstrate, while European leaders have criticised the detention as democratic backsliding.

Yerlikaya and the justice minister, Yilmaz Tunc, criticised the calls for action from CHP leader Ozgur Ozel as "irresponsible" amid a four-day ban on public gatherings.

"Gathering and marching in protest are fundamental rights. But calling to the streets over an ongoing legal investigation is illegal and unacceptable," Tunc said on X early on Friday.

Tunc said the courtroom was the place to respond to any legal process and called for calm, adding that the "independent and unbiased judiciary" was evaluating the case. He has warned against linking Erdogan to Imamoglu's arrest.

Demonstrations took place Thursday in Ankara, Izmir and Istanbul, as well as other provinces across the country, with police erecting barricades on several main streets.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (14)

[FONTE: Foreign Affairs, 9/12/2024]

Erdogan Gets His 'Leader of the Muslim World' Moment

Syria's change of leadership has given Turkey's president the regional influence he has always wanted.

Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has come full circle and then some on Syria. At the dawn of the Erdogan era, Turkey's then-prime minister was Bashar al Assad's patron—once even proposing that the Erdogan and Assad families vacation together. The two leaders fell out after Assad turned his military against the uprising that began in 2011, resulting in millions of refugees streaming into Turkey.

Erdogan could never convince President Barack Obama to invade Syria and overthrow the regime, so he kept his options open, putting together a rebel force dubbed the Syrian National Army (SNA) and tacitly supporting the jihadists that became Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS). The SNA was primarily a tool Turkey used to fight Syrian Kurds who wanted to set up a state on Turkey's doorstep. HTS was useful against the Russians and the regime, but Russian arms confined them to the Idlib province.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (15)

[FONTE: Foreign Affairs, 9/12/2024]

Yet for all the advantages Turkey has in post-Assad Syria, Erdogan will likely face significant challenges. Turkey's partners are the first of these problems: HTS and the SNA. The two rebel groups have troubling histories, including HTS's roots going back to al Qaeda and the Islamic State. While HTS's ties to al Qaeda are well known, its links to the Islamic State remain underreported. According to American intelligence agencies, the Islamic State was critical in helping to set up Al-Nusra Front—an organization that HTS leader Abu Mohammed al-Jolani also led. He broke from Al-Nusra Front and the Islamic State not because of ideological differences but because the Islamic State's Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi wanted to subsume Al-Nusra into his organization, thereby undermining Jolani's autonomy. This is why, despite HTS's fairly sophisticated information effort designed to convince the gullible that HTS is "moderate," the United States, UN, EU and even Turkey have designated it a terrorist organization.

For their part, various watchdog groups have brought attention to the SNA's many gross human rights violations committed against Kurds, Yezidis and women. Since the liberation of Aleppo, most of the news has focused on HTS and its march toward Damascus. While those dramatic events were taking place, the SNA was attacking Syria's Kurdish population.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (16)

[FONTE: Reuters, 10/03/2025]

Turkey backs Sharaa's stability efforts, Erdogan says amid Syrian violence



Syria's newly appointed president for a transitional phase Ahmed al-Sharaa and Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan pose as they shake hands after a joint press conference at the Presidential Palace in Ankara, Turkey, February 4, 2025. REUTERS/Cagla Gurdogan/File Photo Purchase Licensing Rights

ISTANBUL, March 10 (Reuters) - Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday that Turkey was advising Syrian authorities to help ease tensions and welcomed interim Syrian President Ahmed Sharaa's commitment to punishing those who acted outside the law.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (17)

[FONTE: Reuters, 10/03/2025]

"Sharaa is pursuing an inclusive policy without falling into the trap of revanchism. Continuing this approach will thwart the games being played against Syria," Erdogan said after a cabinet meeting in Ankara.

Erdogan's political opponents have urged him to use his influence over Syrian leaders to curb <u>the violence</u> that erupted in the neighbouring country in recent days.

The main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) called for an international peacekeeping force to maintain <u>security in western Syria</u>, just south of Turkey, if the government could not ensure civilian safety there. <u>Clashes</u> between loyalists of deposed President Bashar al-Assad and the country's new Islamist rulers have killed more than 1,000 people, mostly civilians, in Assad's coastal heartland in recent days, according to a war monitoring group.

Turkey, the strongest foreign backer of Sharaa, has condemned the violence and reiterated its support for the interim president.

The instability could damage Ankara's hopes of ending a decades-old conflict with Kurdish militants, some based in Syria, and possibly slow a flow of Syrians returning home from Turkey in recent months after 13 years of war in Syria.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (18)

[FONTE: The Economist, 14/03/2025]

A horrific killing spree shakes Syria

Fresh atrocities suggest a country spiralling out of control



Photograph: Getty Images

Syria is in the throes of its worst bloodshed since the fall of Bashar al-Assad three months ago. Since March 6th Sunni fighters have rampaged through heartlands of the Alawites, the ethnic group which the Assads, and many regime loyalists, came from. The fighters have torched homes and killed indiscriminately: in villages near the city of Latakia, they filmed themselves wearing masks and climbing on the backs of men, making them bark like dogs before shooting them dead. Eyewitnesses describe streets strewn with bodies and rows of burnt-out homes. Hundreds of thousands have fled to the hills and woods along the coast. One Alawite in the city of Jableh says he and others hid in petrified silence as Sunni jihadists went door to door looking for people to execute.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (19)

[FONTE: Christian Solidarity International, 10/03/2025]

Alawites in Syria face massacre - Christian Solidarity International

The entire Sobh family was executed in their apartment in Baniyas, Syria, on March 7 – part of a larger massacre of Alawite civilians on Syria's coast.

Over the past three days, the worst fears of Syria's religious minority groups have been realized. In Syria's coastal region, fighters loyal to the new government headed by former al-Qaeda leader Ahmed al-Sharaa have been massacring Alawite Muslim civilians and looting their homes. Hundreds, possibly thousands of civilians have been killed. As of the evening of March 9, the killings were ongoing.

Christian Solidarity International (CSI) is in touch with its partners on the ground in Tartous and Latakia provinces, where the killings took place, and is preparing a humanitarian aid response.

CSI calls on the international community, particularly the United States and Russia, to demand accountability from the new Syrian government, and to maintain individual sanctions on leaders in the government until such accountability arrives. (CSI has long advocated an end to the broadeconomic sanctions on Syria, which hurt the whole population).

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (20)

[FONTE: Christian Solidarity International, 10/03/2025]

Mosques carry call to jihad on the coast

In December, the Assad regime, a brutal but secular dictatorship that had ruled Syria for over 50 years, was overthrown by a coalition of Sunni Muslim rebels led by the jihadist group (HTS) – al-Qaeda's former affiliate in Syria.

Syria's Christians, Alawites, Druzes, Ismailis, and other religious minorities – around 25 percent of the population – had long feared a Sunni jihadist

victory in Syria's civil war, concerned that it would lead to their persecution. (Syria's former president, Bashar al-Assad, was himself an Alawite Muslim.) During the long civil war, jihadist groups often attacked religious minorities.

But the new Syrian government, headed by HTS leader Ahmed al-Sharaa, promised that religious minorities would be safe and equal in the "new Syria." For the first three months after Assad's fall, that promise largely held.

In recent weeks, however, there were a number of clashes in the coastal region between the new government's security forces and forces still loyal to the Assad regime.

On March 6, those clashes came to a head. The government called for volunteers to mobilize, and mosques in cities across Syria called for a jihad in the coastal region. On March 7, the massacres began.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (21)

[FONTE: CNN, 17/03/2025]

'Ethnic cleansing!' Videos show Syrian government-aligned forces reveling in massacre of minorities in coastal town

CNN —

A mother and her daughter hunch down by the windows of their attic as armed men gather outside the gate. They try not to make a sound. But in the video that they furtively recorded of this fraught moment, it's clear they can barely control their panicked breathing.

Earlier that day, on March 7, the patriarch of the Khalil family had assured them that they were not in danger. The forces aligned with Syria's new Islamist government who had descended on their village of al-Sanobar were only going after people affiliated with the recently toppled dictator Bashar al-Assad, he reasoned.

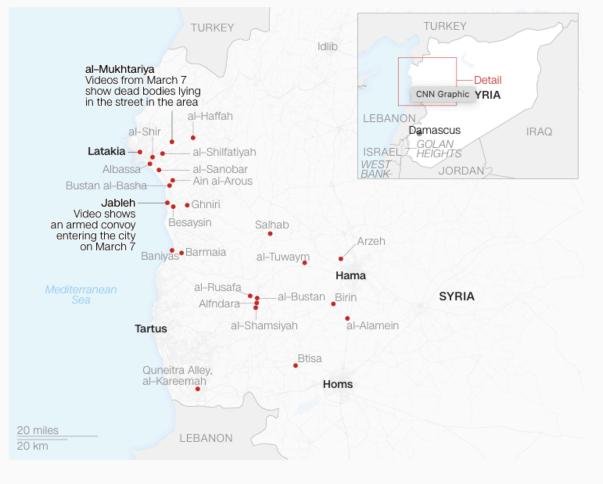
"We haven't done anything wrong," his relative recalled him saying as they watched fighters storming their neighbors' home from their windows. Hours later, she said the patriarch was dead, his lifeless body splayed out on the patio next to his son's corpse.

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (22)

[FONTE: CNN,17/03/2025]

Mass killings took place in at least 25 areas in western Syria from March 6 to 10

The Syrian Network for Human Rights has identified 25 locations across Latakia, Tartus, Hama and Homs governorates where government forces and affiliated factions killed at least 420 people earlier this month. The mass killings occurred in Alawite-majority areas known as strongholds of non-state armed groups linked to the former Assad regime.



Sources: Syrian Network for Human Rights (locations of killings), CNN (geolocated and verified videos posted on Telegram and X)

Graphic: Rachel Wilson and Allegra Goodwin, CNN

A contínua ilusão europeia sobre a Turquia (23)

[FONTE: CNN,17/03/2025]

'They called us Alawite dogs'

Human rights watchdog, the <u>Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR)</u>, said more than 800 people were killed in attacks following the ambush. Other rights groups say the number is even higher.

Assad loyalists have staged several smaller attacks on government forces since then, according to authorities.

Survivors said the attacks in Pine village began in the early hours of Friday, March 7, a day after the initial ambush by Assadist loyalists was reported.

CNN was able to verify the location in the video as the entrance to the village using a line of pine trees, utility poles and a curving road, which corresponded to satellite imagery. Residents also identified the bodies of the men pictured in the video.

"The sword of the people of Idlib wants only you," he sings, referring to the territory in northern Syria that was ruled by al-Sharaa's now dissolved Hay'at Tahrir Al-Sham (HTS), before the forces wrested control from the old regime and became the de-facto government. HTS fighters now compose most of the country's General Security forces.

In his Facebook profile picture, the fighter is seen in fatigues embroidered with what appears to be HTS insignia. Three military experts said the patch on his shoulder was consistent with several HTS units, but the photograph was too blurry to determine the specific brigade.

Bibliografia

