

# Syria itm power competitors

How will Syria's fall impact key players in the Middle East?

For Russia, Syria's fall could mean losing its closest Middle Eastern ally and undermining its ability to project power while it fights a war in Ukraine. For Iran, it could shatter its so-called Axis of Resistance, comprising allied states and militias. Here's how the events in Syria could impact key players in the Middle East:

Can great powers intervene in Syria?

In this issue of Syria Studies , we are pleased to share five studies that focus on intervention in the Syrian conflict by Great Powers. In this era of "great power competition," Syria has been the target of rival powers seeking to affect outcomes, with, in particular, Russia and China backing the government and the US the opposition.

Will Syria's fall of Aleppo disrupt Iran's proxies?

In Syria, Israel has consistently targeted Iranian personnel and supply routes used to transfer weapons to its proxies. The fall of Aleppo and potentially other cities bordering Lebanon could further disrupt those routes, placing Iran in a difficult position.

Are Syrian rebels consolidating control after lightning offensive took Damascus?

Rebels are consolidating control after their lightning offensive took Damascus. People celebrate holding a large Syrian opposition flag at Umayyad Square in Damascus, Syrian, on Dec. 9, 2024.

Are Russian military bases in Syria a threat to Iran's security?

"Russian military bases in Syria are on high alert. There is currently no serious threat to their security." For Tehran, "there is no doubt that the fall of the Assad regime is a highly consequential defeat for Iran," Ozcelik said. "Syria was the conduit for Iran's systematic support for Hezbollah in Lebanon, this supply chain has now been cut off.

Will Syrian rebels make an advance to Aleppo after Israel weakened Hezbollah?

Hadi al-Bahra, a Syrian opposition leader representing anti-Assad groups, including the Turkey-backed Syrian National Army (SNA), said rebels felt encouraged to make an advance for Aleppo last week after Israel debilitated Hezbollah and weakened Iran's footprint in the region.

The recall of successful military commanders and effective ground forces, including the Wagner troops, has created a severe power vacuum in Syria. For instance, Russia has abandoned some of its strongholds, including some airports and other strategic places.

Like other regional powers, Turkey has exerted its influence in Syria by backing armed groups such as HTS and SNA. Since the beginning of the civil war, the Turkish military has launched several...

10 ????&#0183; The collapse of the Assad regime in Syria has set off a scramble for control of the heart of the Middle East, a competition that could defer indefinitely the peace and stability Syrians crave and ...

The first chapter by Raymond Hinnebusch gives a overview of the "New Struggle for Syria" engaging the US, Russia and China, that provides a macro-context for the subsequent studies. It looks at how these powers shaped a proxy war over territorial spheres of influence that metamorphized into an economic struggle waged around US sanctions over ...

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Jordan, the Gulf states, and Israeli interests must align in preventing extremist forces from transforming Syria into a launching ground that threatens regional stability. Washington and Jerusalem must act before strategic opportunities disappear.

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The group behind the lightning fast offensive across much of Syria, Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), has held a consequential but checkered role in the country"s more than 13 years of civil war. Middle ...

