

SITUATION REPORT SYRIA


SWITCHBOARD

HIGHLIGHTS

SECURITY

Al Bab city in northwest Syria was bombarded by several missiles that hit a local market full of civilians. The attack killed 14 civilians including five children and wounded 35 individuals ([ReliefWeb, 2022](#)). The attack took place on World Humanitarian Day and both put civilians at risk and challenged all humanitarian efforts to reveal the struggle of Syrians.

On August 22, 2022, a nine-year-old male child from Aleppo had Acute Watery Diarrhea disease (AWD) and cholera confirmed by both RDT and culture test. The initial investigation by the WHO rapid response team indicated an increase of AWD cases in Aleppo city in addition to an increase in severe cases of diarrhea admitted to Aleppo University Hospital and Zahi Azrak Hospital since August 15, 2022. ([Relief Web, 2022](#))

MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

In August 2022, the humanitarian community recorded 11,500 spontaneous IDP return movements across Syria, 35% more than return movements tracked in July. Over 7,300 of these (63%) occurred within Idleb and Rural Damascus governorates ([ReliefWeb, 2022](#)).

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

On the International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances, August 31, the UN Secretary-General announced the recommendation to establish an independent international mechanism to reveal the fate of the forcibly disappeared in Syria. This announcement is the strategic outcome of many Syrian initiatives and organizations, who spared no effort in advocating for the rights of disappeared Syrians and their families ([SCM, 2022](#)).

HEALTH

The public health of the Syrian community has deteriorated severely and the health system is overstretched. The health cluster (WHO) published a recent analysis of the public health situation in Syria, which indicates that out of the 113 public hospitals assessed, 27 are completely non-functional, 30 are partially functional, and only 56 are fully functional. The statistics for public clinics are not any better, as only 47% of assessed facilities are fully working, while 21% are only partially functioning and 32% completely shut down. Many factors affect the functionality of health centers and hospitals, including damage to facilities, equipment and medicine shortages and, most importantly, shortages in healthcare staff ([ReliefWeb, 2022](#)).

CASE STUDY



CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Don't Suffocate Truth is a campaign by witnesses and survivors of the 2013 Ghouta chemical attack, in Rural Damascus governorate, by the Assad regime and its allies ([Do not suffocate truth, 2022](#)). On August 21, 2022, campaigners organized demonstrations in London, New York, and Idleb to observe the tragic anniversary of the attack and call for further demonstrations around the world to raise public awareness of the event.

Further, an online roundtable, "Beyond the Red Line," was organized to discuss the consequences of impunity for the use of chemical weapons in Syria. Med Global, Don't Suffocate the Truth campaigners, the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM), and the "We Exist" alliance of Syrian civil society organizations ([We Exist, 2022](#)) were among the event's organizers.