

HOW TO STOP THE VIOLENCE IN SYRIA IN 2015

MARCH 2015

A SURVEY OF 277 NON-VIOLENT ACTIVISTS

PURPOSE

The aim of this survey is to be a guiding tool for campaign planning by groups around the world who want to stop the violence and extremism in Syria. 277 influential non-violent activists were surveyed inside Syria over one month, mainly through face-to-face interviews.

Respondents came from almost every Syrian province though the organisers make no claim that this is a representative sample of the entire Syrian population.

MAIN FINDINGS

Strong Support For A “No Fly Zone” And International Negotiations

KEY



Do you support a “no fly zone” across the whole of Syria?



Reasons given to support are: to protect civilians and reduce the violence (78%), help press the regime to negotiate (15%) and assist in aid access and economic activity (9%).

Do you support international negotiations to stop the violence in Syria?



In response to an open question: What in your opinion can and should be done to stop the violence across Syria? the most cited response was “dialogue and negotiation” (36%), followed by “fall of the regime” (23%), and “uniting the opposition” (6%).

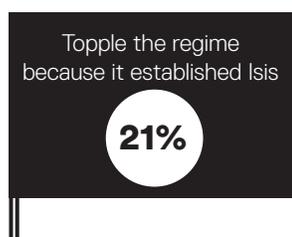
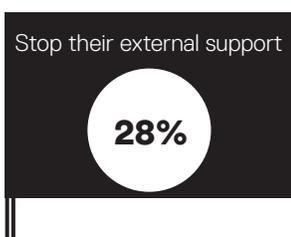
No Clear Support For Local Ceasefires

Do you support initiatives for ceasefires in specific areas?



For those who did support local ceasefires, “oversight by civilian and international organisations” was the most cited way for them to succeed (15%), followed by “the return of displaced people to their land” (13%).

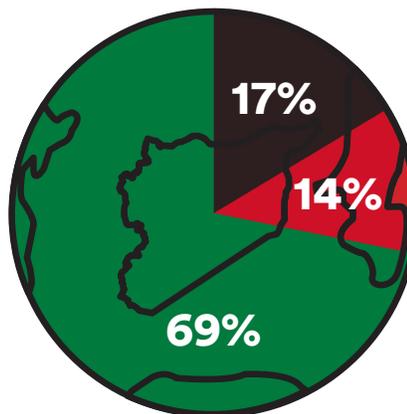
How To Stop Isis?



In response to an open question: When decision makers in Europe and the US ask “how can the world stop ISIS?” what would you say?

International Solidarity Matters

Do you think that solidarity activities by international groups could be helpful to you and your community?



Let's Build A Global Campaign

Can you participate in a campaign (holding banners, graffiti, distributing leaflets, designing posters etc.)?



Are you ready to talk to activists/organisations outside the region to help them understand Syria's needs?



METHODOLOGY

Consultations were held with a number of activists in Syria to identify interventions to stop the violence. They formed the basis of the questionnaire (<http://svy.mk/1ukdrrD>).

More than three-quarters of the activists were consulted directly through face-to-face interviews, the rest completed the survey online.

Responses were skewed towards opposition-held and Kurdish self-governance areas in the north of Syria although there was no observed difference in responses from the north and south.

Region	Number of Respondents	Percent of Sample Size
Aleppo	94	33.9%
Hassake	63	22.7%
Idlib	28	10.1%
Hama	24	8.7%
Deir ezzour	18	6.5%
Raqqa	12	4.3%
Damascus	9	3.2%
Other Areas	8	2.9%
Unknown	21	7.6%

CONTACT

For more information about this survey please contact info@thesyriacampaign.org