



OIR IN BRIEF

The 29th 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 train, advise, and assist local partners—including the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)—to independently defeat ISIS and improve regional stability.

ISIS Attack on SDF Detention Facility Exposes Security Deficiencies

pp. 3, 18, 68

- ISIS fighters **breached the Ghwayran Detention Facility to free ISIS detainees**, igniting a 10-day battle that killed nearly 500—mostly ISIS fighters.
- The SDF, with Coalition ground and air support, **repelled the attack** and recaptured most detainees.
- The attack accelerated plans to move the detainees to a **new, hardened facility**. The SDF **fired the facility's entire guard force**.
- The United States and the SDF called for countries to **repatriate their nationals** held in SDF detention.

Partner Forces Remain Dependent on Coalition Support

pp. 1, 34, 40, 67

- **The ISF remained dependent** on the Coalition for most intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) needs.
- Coalition advisors: the ISF needs to improve **integrating intelligence for airstrike targets** and situational awareness during operations.
- The SDF, which has no air assets, **remained completely reliant** on Coalition ISR.
- The ability of Kurdish Security Forces units to conduct counter-ISIS operations **varied widely**.

Iran-aligned Militias, Other Parties Pose Threat to Coalition and Partners

pp. 3, 45, 71

- Iran-aligned militias continued to **pose a threat** to U.S. military and diplomatic facilities.
- Militias **limited attacks in Iraq** during the quarter, likely to safeguard political positioning during government formation.
- In Syria, forces affiliated with the Syrian regime, Russia, Iran and Turkey **sought to disrupt** SDF and Coalition operations against ISIS and to erode the SDF's base of support.

Stalled Iraqi Government Formation Slows Reforms, Aid Distribution

pp. 48–53

- Political maneuvering **stalled the formation** of a new government, forcing Iraqi ministries to operate under an **extension of the 2021 budget**.
- Budget constraints **limited Iraq's ability to undertake key efforts**, including forming a joint ISF-Kurdish Security Forces brigade to better fight ISIS, and funding humanitarian assistance inside displaced persons camps.

Limited Repatriations, Reintegration of Displaced Persons

pp. 4, 22, 54, 77

- U.S. military leaders and the humanitarian community remained concerned over **continued violence** and **ISIS recruitment and indoctrination** activities at the al-Hol displaced persons camp in Syria.
- As of early February, Iraq had **repatriated 448 families from al-Hol**. However, families still face challenges to return, at the current pace, it would take **nearly 15 years** to bring all Iraqis in the camp home.
- Some countries repatriated their nationals, but **about 10,000 non-Iraqi foreigners** remain in al-Hol.

Russia's War in Ukraine Leads to Increased Food Prices

pp. 4, 34, 55, 79

- During the quarter, **prices for wheat and other staple foods** including rice, cooking oil, and sugar rose dramatically due to the Russian war in Ukraine.
- In response to the rising price of goods, the Iraqi **government increased pension payments** and suspended custom duties.
- Widespread **food insecurity in Syria** worsened.

Lead IG Oversight

p. 88

- The Lead IG and partner agencies completed **eight reports related to OIR**. These reports examined various activities including the DoD administration of **COVID-19 vaccines** to the DoD workforce, DoS fuel management at overseas posts, and USAID management of awards and humanitarian assistance programs in Iraq and Syria.