Annual Report 2021





Introduction:

The Syrian Dialogue Center is a civil society organisation (CSO) that aims to encourage and activate dialogue around issues that concern the Syrian people, it also aims to strengthen relations as well as stimulating cooperation and coordination between Syrians.

In the first quarter of the year 1435 AH/2014 AD the center started its activities through the first consultative symposium. Three other consultative symposiums followed that over the years 1435AH/2014AD-1436AH/2015AD, until the announcement of the founding of the Syrian Dialogue Center near the end of 2015AD in response to the broad spectrum of participants in these symposiums.

The center includes three thematic units: the shared identity and consensus unit, the policy analysis unit, and the societal unit.

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Vision:

For the center to be a safe space for Syrian dialogues, and a leading example in encouraging dialogue culture.

Message:

Encouraging constructive dialogue between Syrians enabling them to find practical solutions to their shared challenges, achieve integration and coexistence, and rationalising the national decision.

Values:

- Professionalism with regards to the use of dialogue tools and adherence to its etiquette.
- Excellence in proposals and facing challenges.
- Placing the national interest above any sectarian or external affiliations.
- Encompassing all perspectives and respecting all differing points of view.

The center's Thematic Working Units:

The Policy Analysis Unit

The policy analysis unit's goal is to analyse and study the various policies implemented by the regional or global active actors in the Syrian context. That is crucial as giving recommendations or suggesting policies that encourage dialogue and cohesion on the important issues, require a deep and precise understanding of policies of the active actors in the Syrian context as what they stand to gain, not to mention their motivations to implement or decide such policies.

The Shared Identity and Consensus Unit

This unit aims to work on solidifying the shared identity shared by all Syrians, and to build the necessary amount of cohesion between the various subgroups of the Syrian people. It also strives to bridge the gaps between the points of view of different Syrian active groups and their movements; all to result in shared responses and positions to major national issues.

The Societal Unit

The aim of this unit is to participate in the efforts of returning vitality and wellness to the Syrian society in general, especially after decades of the authorities' tyranny. And more specifically to discuss collectively the repercussions and echoes of the Syrian revolution, to help with the process of reform. Other goals of this unit include encouraging the societal work culture, strengthening societal bonds and planting confidence in its own abilities, and to bring out society's inner energies and abilities activating them at the institutional and individual levels, so that the cause of rising back up (revival) becomes a personal cause.

Publications and Activities for The

Year 2021

The Syrian dialogue center has hosted during the year 2021AD – 1442AH: 24 dialogue events, 25 training programs, and has produced 52 reports s and research papers between the thematic units of the center accordingly:

The Policy Analysis Unit

The Shared Identity and Consensus Unit

Societal Unit

- Publications
- 1 Publications
- Publications

- Dialogue Events
- Dialogue Events

Dialogue Events



Center's Statistics

The center's publications and reports have reached more than



between the years 2019 and 2021

The center has hosted since its inception till the end of the year 2021

150Events

The center has published since its inception till the end of the year 2021

180
Publications

The number of participants in the center's activities has exceeded

1225

participants in the

year 2021

The center's team has participated in approximately

145

events and media appearances during the year 2021

Affiliated and Partner institutions:

























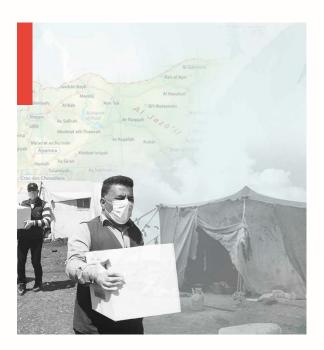








Firstly: Publications



1- The mental image for humanitarian efforts in Syria after the year 2011: The difficulties of need and the scarcity of resources

Paper's aim: clarifying the popular (Syrian) opinion on the humanitarian effort in the Syrian north, how was this opinion formed and why is there an overall negative impression over it, and who is responsible for it. Then it touched upon a bundle of recommendations with the goal of rectifying some of the mistakes, loosening tensions with the populous, and disciplining the humanitarian aid effort while enhancing it.

Download



2- Deir Ezzor... the dynamics of the conflict and the competing sides:

Report's goal: a reading into the situation of Deir Ezzor while shining a light on the regional and international actors, and the goals that motivate them and play a role in the dynamics of interactions between them. To be able to predict the future of the region given the conditions it is going through.









3- A year of resilience... how did the Moscow agreement complete its first year without collapsing?

Report's goal: An attempt at investigating the factors that reaffirmed the easing of tensions that were a result of the Moscow agreement, with regards to the region of north western Syria. Arriving finally at predicting the future of the agreement and the future of the regions under the control of Syrian revolutionary or opposition forces.

Download



4- The challenges to social cohesion between Syrians and the Turkish society:

Publication's goal: Following the relationship between Syrian refugees and the Turkish society, and shedding a light on some the critical social changes that occurred in the previous year. As well as to warn of some pointers that could cause a state of imbalance in this relationship, in the future. Furthermore attempt to correct them and propose solutions that aim at strengthening cohesion and collaboration, a stance that the Turkish government adopts.





5- Mobilization and cause advocacy efforts in the global arena: a conflicted state, and lack of strategy

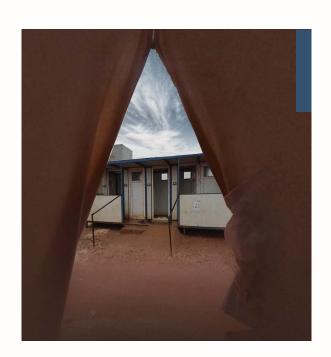
Paper's goal: Studying the mobilization and cause advocacy efforts that targeted non-Syrian societies and policy makers. Hoping to shed a light on the achievements that these campaigns have achieved, while discovering the mistakes they made. Finally proposing solutions and recommendations in order to manifest more impact in the coming efforts, especially with the continuing humanitarian crisis in Syria and the urgent need for mobilization and advocacy.

Download



6- With no shelter...With no protection...The hidden face of the lives of women in the camps

Paper's goal: A look at a new angle of life in the northern Syria camps, by focusing on the daily reality of the camps that the refugees live in. Especially women, and on their absent human needs, particularly those that affect the lives of women as they are a fragile on one hand, and on the other very influential on a societal level.





7- Answering the question of "What is to be done?" Thoughts about building societal trust between Syrians

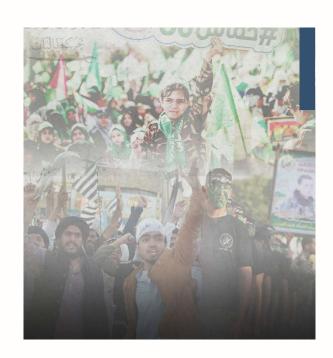
Article's goal: Discussing urgent questions in the Syrian arena, starting with the issue of how to strengthen trust between Syrians given the current conditions. Not to mention recognising the critical factors and conditions that can help in building trust between Syrians.

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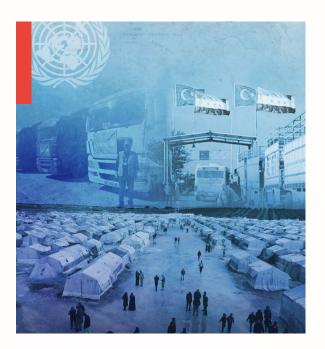


8- The factors contributing to strengthening the trust of the populous in the militant groups: a case study of Taliban and Hamas.

Paper's goal: Exploring practical implementations of relationships between the populous and militant groups by studying comparable examples from both the Afghan and Palestinian movements. With the goal being analysing the examples and extracting the main factors that led to strengthening the populous' trust in them, while comparing to similar situations of Syrian revolutionary factions.



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9- The Russian pressure to prevent humanitarian aid from reaching northern Syria.. The risks, options, and alternatives:

Report's goal: Studying the background of the Russian pressure that pressure that aims to prevent humanitarian aid from crossing the border and the closing of Bab al-Hawa Border Crossing. As well as probing the expected scenarios and suggesting the possible alternatives to face the Russian pressure.

Download



10- Syrian labour in the Turkish labour market:

Paper's goal: A study of the state of Syrian labour in the Turkish labour market through inspecting the life of this segment, its experience, and affect. As well as the expected future role for it.







11- Taliban in Afghanistan... and comparisons with the Syrian situation: pre Kabul

Report's goal: presenting a detailed reading of the events that occurred in Afghanistan, attempting to learn from the experiment with regards to concerns in the Syrian situation. All from the point of view opportunities and risks without assessing Taliban's ideology or methodology.

Download



12- Youth accommodation in turkey... the reality and challenges

Paper's goal: shedding a light on the reality of the Syrian segment in youth accommodation in Turkey. It also called upon with urgency to all Syrian, Turkish and western organisations to approach this segment with projects and programmes that help them to overcome their burdens and dire conditions they live in.



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13- The media rhetoric of ISIS and its ideological motivations; a reading into its media and religious? Production in the post Baghdadi era

Article goal: identifying the main points that the media rhetoric relies on currently, and discovering the tactical and strategic directions relating to that. As well as clarifying the goals that ISIS aims to achieve through it; through analysing its production in the post Baghdadi era.

Download



14- The effects of the asylum experience on Syrian minors with no guardians, years after their arrival in Turkey:

Paper's goal: To follow the conditions of Syrian refugee minors with no guardians after entering Turkey and taking a look at their experiences and their effects. As well raising awareness of this segment and what its rights and needs are, needs and rights that differ to other segments.







15- Are we witnessing a new rapprochement to dealing with the Syrian issue? A reading into global and regional positions

Report's goal: Shedding a light on the recent fluctuations in the positions of states concerned with the Syrian issue, and their effects on the progress of the political solution. Furthermore, looking into the new global approaches with regards to the Syrian matter; helping the revolutionary and opposition factions propose adequate solutions to interact with these new approaches on one side, and raising awareness among Syrians on the other.

Download



16- The evolution of General Ifta' and religious education management in Syria, from establishment to abolition:

Paper's goal: Presenting an analytical reading of the most important changes, that the legal administration of General Ifta' and religious education management have undertaken. As well as some recommendations on how to deal with the changes in a way that confronts it and helps return things to what they ought to be.



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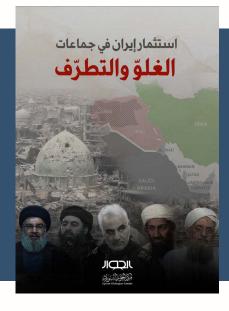
Secondly: The publication series

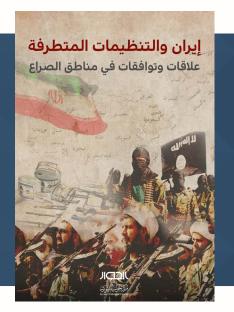
1- Iran's investment into radical extremist organisations

The goal of this series is to study the unannounced relationship between Iran and the extremist organisations; in order to expose and clarify how important this relationship is, especially given Iran's successful efforts to expand its network in the Syrian issue, pressuring with its soft and hard power in all aspects of the Syrian issue. All to achieve its militaristic, political, cultural, and economic goals. This series has also explored the investment's dynamic, and the mutual benefit of a relationship between Iran and the extremist groups, as well as how this relationship has aided Tehran's expansionist Farsi project for 20 years.

This study has expanded the geographical scope to understand the scale of this relationship between Iran and the extremists, so it examined both parties consistently and wholly, while explaining the evidence for the mutual investments that Iran and the extremist groups in in Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and African nations do not release.

Series Publications:





2- Shedding a light on the dynamics of the relationship between Iran, the United States and "Israel"

This series aimed to shed a light on the reality of the relationship between Iran, The United States and "Israel"; in an effort to reach an objective realistic and complete understanding of it through analysing the events, aiming to reveal this mysterious complicated and interwinding relationship that brought these sides together. This series has been prepared with an analysis of the events and the paths with regards to the Iranian "Israeli" and American relationships, before Khomeini's revolution, during and after it. That was done by going back to studies, analysis and documents that were available to the research team.

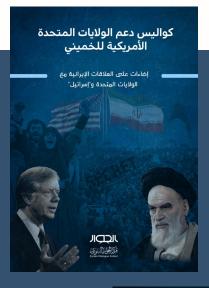
To get as close to the truth as possible, this study aimed to consider various sources relying on researchers and politicians, and given the nature of this information these sources had to be compared, verified and critically analysed thoroughly.

The importance of this series comes from the fact that it explores the fluctuations in relations between Iran and the United States, as well as Iran's relationship with "Israel" in an era that contained many historical events that formed pivot points in the current and previous centuries. Namely: the collapse of the soviet union, the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and what followed that of international intervention against Iraq, the events of July the 11th and the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan after that, finally the beginning of the Arab-"Israeli" "peace process?".

The series also discusses the effects such fluctuations had on the syrian issue, and the factors that drive them towards agreement or disagreement. This level of comprehension of the situation helps develop the best attitude to interact with this relatioship and understand its intersections and common strategic goals. We can direct this awareness in the Syrian people's advantage, and their cause in facing the Iranian project in Syria.

Series Publications:

- 1. The United States' aid to Khomeini
- 2. Exporting the revolution and changes in Iranian policy
- 3. Fluctuations in relations amidst major regional and global events
- 4. The effects of the nuclear file and internal changes on Iranian American relations
- 5. The Iranian American interactions and their effects on the on the Syrian issue.











National Consensus Index

The revolutionary and opposition forces have indeed over the years suffered from societal difficulties for several reasons, and this has lead to a general impression that these forces are divided and cannot come easily to a common vision or political position.

Index's goal:

To measure the degree of consensus between the revolutionary and opposition forces. Aligning with the center's goal of "achieving complementariness and coexistence, and guiding the national decision"; the center has prepared this indicator to track the positions of these faction towards the most important contemporary political events, according to a disciplined scientific methodology based on tracking and analysing these positions in an effort to measure the degree of consensus.

Project's duration:

Given the importance of this indicator in the Syrian national context; the center has adopted it as one of its main projects, leaning on interested parties from the factions studied or researchers and enthusiasts. The indicator was also further developed and improved by collaborating with parties that are interested in guiding the Syrian national movemnents, so that the results are published and distributed periodically to all national parties and individuals that are active in the Syrian political arena.

After publishing the first four publications of the indicator over the years 2018-2022; the fifth publication was released in Dhu al hija of the year 1442AH which coincided with July 2021AD.

Observation track

In its efforts to keep up with the latest events and changes in the Syrian arena; the center has released a new publication track in the year of 2021 under the name "Arrasid" (The Observer). This publication track covers rapid commentating and brief analysis of hot topics on the ground or in the political arena with regards to the Syrian issue.

Notable publications from this track:

- The Russian attempts at entering the region east of the Euphrates amidst American inaction and Turkish excitement.
- A look into the aggregate of the Russian intervention, on it's 7th anniversary.

- The meanings behind the media back and forth between "HTS" and "Hurras Addin".
- What is the Russian message behind bombing "Faylaq Asham" in Afrin.

- Continuous UN support to Assad's regime despite sanctions.
- The indications behind repeated attacks on American bases in the Northeast.

Repeated Russian accusations with regards to preparation of the use of chemical weapons, and its effects on Security Council negotiations with respect to the issue of humanitarian aid across the border.

Thirdly: Seminars

1- The social contract and constitution... Concepts and priorities:

• Event's goal:

a discussion of the effective practicality of rewriting syria's constitution. as well as discussing voices saying that writing a social contract first is an absolute must, one that relies on a constitution at a later stage; instead of writing a constitution first.

2- The principles of revolutions... Continuity and investment:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the possibility of converting the revolution's principles into a cause in the minds of Syrians; starting by studying the Palestinian experiment and understanding its tools and politics. After that identifying the obstacles facing converting the Syrian current state into a cause that is carried by Syrians of all backgrounds.



3-Dialogue between organisations and local populations in an effort to evolve humanitarian efforts:

• Event's goal:

Increasing cohesion in the Syrian society, and identifying the the image the local populous has formed of these NGOs.

4- Caesar's Act a year after ratification; outcomes and possible rebuilding scenarios:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the outcomes of "Caesar's Act" a year after its ratification by the United States of America and the use of it against Assad's regime.

5- The role of civil society and activists in advocating for the Syrian cause:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the role of civil society organisations and activists in changing the principles of the revolution into a cause deeply rooted in Syrian society, by learning from successful experiments. In addition to raising awareness about some issues with regards to the Syrian revolution, and taking a look at of both positive and negative changes in order to consolidate the gains and curb errors and losses.



6- The dangers of Iranian projects and their tools on regional security and the future of the region:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the complicated relationship between Iran and its tools i.e., extremist organisations. Displaying the different sides to the mutual investments that Iran and extremist organisations in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon among other countries are certainly guilty of. As well as looking into recommendations in order to combat Iran and extremist organizations.

7- Agreement and contrarianism in the positions taken by revolutionary and oppositions forces: Conclusions through analysing positions over a year:

• Event's goal:

Discussing how to build on the agreements between revolutionary and opposition forces with regards to positions relating to domestic issues. As well as learning the tools and tactics that can be used politically in order to raise awareness about the legal and civil rights issues in northern Syria.

8- Tools to increase societal trust between Syrians:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the factors that can increase societal trust between syrians by looking at the role of civil society organisations working in the area of societal enabling, in addition to the role of family and women, as well as educational, political and military institutions, media outlets, and finally the geographical challenges faced at the moment.



9- The most recent developments in the plans to normalise relations with Assad's regime, and the efforts of activists and Syrian organisations in the United States against it:

• Event's goal:

Discussing the efforts of American Syrian organisations in the US and their role in supporting the Syrian revolution, as well as presenting possible alternatives and options that can be started in case the Syrian issue stays out of the American administration's circle of interest.

10- The collapse of the Turkish Lira and its repercussions in the Syrian north:

• Event's goal:

Understanding the reasons behind the collapse of the Turkish lira and its constant fluctuation with respect to the US dollar. As well as learning how effected the general populous was in Northern Syria, especially displaced groups and the poor, impoverished classes. Finally presenting a bundle of solutions and actions that can remedy this situation.



Research assistants training program in the Syrian north

In the context of the center's efforts towards preparing skilfull youth, building experiences and giving them research tools so that they can perform their role in the research field; the center has established a research assistant training program in the Syrian north.

Program's Mechanics:

A training program that combines the theoretical and practical aspects of research; several training courses were given forming a background for researches and beginners, following that the participants worked on their researches under the supervision of the center's researchers. As well as the participants attending meetings and enriching dialogue activities.

Program's Goals:

- Getting the youth closer to research work.
- 2. Giving the participants the skills to gather data and the tools to analyse it
- Getting the participants practically qualified, enabling them to work in the labour market



Offered training packages for the year 2021

The basics of scientific research methodology:

• Training goal:

Preparing the youth, building experience and giving them research tools so that they can perform their role in the research field.

Training axes:

- Scientific research steps
- The criteria of choosing research topics
- The shape and style of research

Training partners:







Number of participants:



Number of training courses offered:



training courses



Basics of political analysis

• Training goal:

Preparing and training Syrians interested in political work and expanding their skills in political analysis.

Training axes:

- The importance of experience and aggregated knowledge
- The style and variations of analysis outcomes
- The language of analysis and the importance of objectivity and precision
- Theories of international relations

Training partners:







Number of participants:



Number of training courses offered:

4

training courses



Dialogue skills and ethics:

• Training goal:

Growing the dialogue culture in various groups of Syrian society, explaining dialogue strategies and training participants to use comminication, oratory and convincing skills in dialogue.

• Training axes:

- The knowledge aspect of dialogue skills
- The goals and ethics of dialogue
- The obstacles of dialogue

Training partners:























Number of participants:



Number of training courses offered:

12
training courses



Publications index for the year 2021

N	Publication	Туре	Hijri	Gregorian
1	The mental image for humanitarian efforts in Syria after the year 2011: The difficulties of need and the scarcity of resources	Research paper	1442-05-18	2021-01-02
2	Exporting the revolution, and political changes in Iran	Analytical report	1442-05-26	2021-01-10
3	A general look into the important events that affected the Syrian issue in the year 2020	Special report	1442-06-02	2021-01-15
4	Iran's investment into radical extremist organisations	Research paper	1442-06-08	2021-01-21
5	Reasons behind the failure of the constitutional assembly: a discouraging environment for political solutions	Analytical report	1442-06-15	2021-01-28
6	Deir Ezzor the dynamics of the conflict and the competing sides:	Analytical report	1442-06-29	2021-02-11
7	Caesar's Act a year after ratification; outcomes and possible rebuilding scenarios:	Report	1442-07-01	2021-02-13
8	The factors affecting in the foreign relations of armed groups: a comparative panoramic study	Analytical report	1442-07-04	2021-02-16
9	Iran and extremist organisations; relationships and agreements in areas with conflict.	Research paper	1442-07-13	2021-02-25
10	A year of resilience how did the Moscow agreement complete its first year without collapsing?	Analytical report	1442-07-28	2021-03-12
11	Threats to social cohesion between Syrians and Turkish society	Special report	1442-08-05	2021-03-18
12	Fluctuations in relations amidst major global and regional events	Analytical report	1442-08-09	2021-03-22
13	Suicide; the silent death that could threaten Syria in the future	Analytical report	1442-08-19	2021-04-01
14	Mobilization and cause advocacy efforts in the global arena: a conflicted state, and lack of strategy	Research paper	1442-08-24	2021-04-06
15	Over a year since the Moscow agreement: factors of continuity and expected scenarios	Objective report	1442-09-09	2021-04-21
16	The factors contributing to strengthening the trust of the populous in the militant groups: a case study of Taliban and Hamas.	Analytical report	1442-10-09	2021-05-21
17	Post Caesar Act; who is held responsible for the deterioration of economic and humanitarian conditions in Syria	Analytical report	1442-10-14	2021-05-26
18	The popular and media management to the urgent Palestinian event	Analytical report	1442-10-21	2021-06-02

19	The Russian pressure to prevent humanitarian aid from reaching northern Syria The risks, options, and alternatives:	Analytical report	1442-11-10	2021-06-20
20	The repercussions of Iran's elections results on the Vienna talks and the American Iranian relations	Observer	1442-11-12	2021-06-22
21	Repeated Russian accusations with regards to preparation of the use of chemical weapons, and its effects on Security Council negotiations with respect to the issue of humanitarian aid across the border.	Observer	1442-11-15	2021-06-25
22	Daraa a reading into the meanings of the recent Russian escalation and its consequences	Observer	1442-11-22	2021-07-02
23	Answering the question of "What is to be done?" Thoughts about building societal trust between Syrians	Analytical article	1442-11-28	2021-07-08
24	The indications behind repeated attacks on American bases in the Northeast.	Observer	1442-12-07	2021-07-17
25	The national cohesion indicator	Indicator	1442-12-08	2021-07-18
26	The effects of the nuclear file and internal changes on Iranian American relations	Analytical report	1442-12-15	2021-07-25
27	Continuous UN support to Assad's regime despite sanctions.	Observer	1442-12-22	2021-08-01
28	Tunisia and Daraa between the cradle of the "Arab Spring" and the cradle of the Syrian revolution	Opinion Piece	1442-12-24	2021-08-03
29	Syrian workers in the Turkish labour market	Research paper	1443-01-03	2021-08-11
30	Taliban in Afghanistan and comparisons with the Syrian situation: pre Kabul	Analytical report	1443-01-17	2021-08-25
31	Baghdad summit, visions of a new arrangement in region during Biden's reign	Observer	1443-01-25	2021-09-02
32	What is the Russian message behind bombing "Faylaq Asham" in Afrin.	Observer	1443-01-26	2021-09-03
33	Agreement and contrarianism in the positions taken by revolutionary and oppositions forces	Objective report	1443-02-14	2021-09-21
34	The meanings behind the media back and forth between "HTS" and "Hurras Addin"	Observer	1448-03-19	2021-09-26
35	A look into the aggregate of the Russian intervention, on it's 7th anniversary	Observer	1443-02-23	2021-09-30
36	Youth accommodation in turkey the reality and challenges	Research paper	1443-02-28	2021-10-05
37	The media rhetoric of ISIS and its ideological motivations; a reading into its media and religious? Production in the post Baghdadi era	Analytical paper	1443-03-02	2021-10-08
38	Tools to increase societal trust between Syrians	Objective report	1443-03-09	2021-10-15
39	The relation between the political position and its "How"?- a study into the state of position taken by the Syrian opposition and revolutionary forces	Analytical report	1443-03-12	2021-10-18
40	The effects of the asylum experience on Syrian minors with no guardians, years after their arrival in Turkey:	Research paper	1443-03-20	2021-10-26

41	The Russian attempts at entering the region east of the Euphrates amidst American inaction and Turkish excitement.	Observer	1443-03-27	2021-11-02
42	International legal guarantees for NGOs and to what extent are they applied in the Syrian case	Research paper	1443-04-11	2021-11-16
43	Are we witnessing a new rapprochement to dealing with the Syrian issue? A reading into global and regional positions	Research paper	1443-04-17	2021-11-22
44	The most recent developments in the plans to normalise relations with Assad's regime, and the efforts of activists and Syrian organisations in the United States against it:	Objective report	1443-04-20	2021-11-25
45	The evolution of General Ifta' and religious education management in Syria, from establishment to abolition:	Research paper	1443-04-23	2021-11-28
46	A new Republic's Mufti selected, now what?	Opinion piece	1443-05-07	2021-12-11
47	Humanitarian aid: an opening to increase American Russian cooperation in the frame of the "step for a step" policy	Position assessment	1443-05-10	2021-12-14
48	The Iranian American interactions and their effects on the on the Syrian issue.	Analytical report	1443-05-18	2021-12-22
49	Are we witnessing a new rapprochement to dealing with the Syrian issue?	Objective report	1443-05-21	2021-12-25
50	The living situation of middle class Syrian families live in Istanbul?	Report	1443-05-25	2021-12-29
51	With no shelterWith no protectionThe hidden face of the lives of women in the camps	Exploratory Paper	1443-05-27	2021-12-31



