

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



29TH COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF  
PRISON AND PROBATION SERVICES (CDPPS)

“HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW AT THE  
HEART OF PRISONS AND PROBATION”

## **WORKSHOP 4: MANAGING RETURNEES AND THEIR FAMILIES**

---

24. JUNE 2024 SOFIA, BULGARIA

MR. TORBEN ADAMS

UNODC BAGHDAD/IRAQ

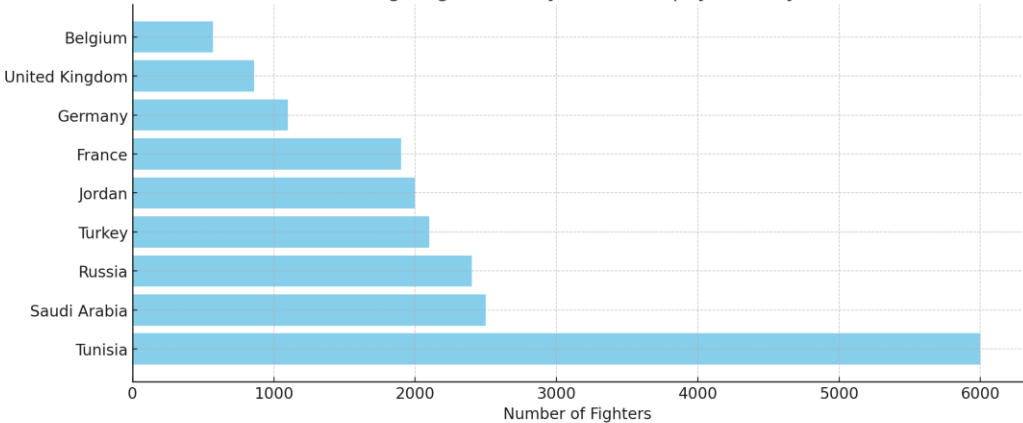
# CONTENT

- Background FTF Figures
- Al Hol Camp/ NES (Iraqi Nationals in NES: Context and Analysis)
- UN Support
- Operational Mechanisms
- FTF Related Challenges
- UNODC Support
- Discussion

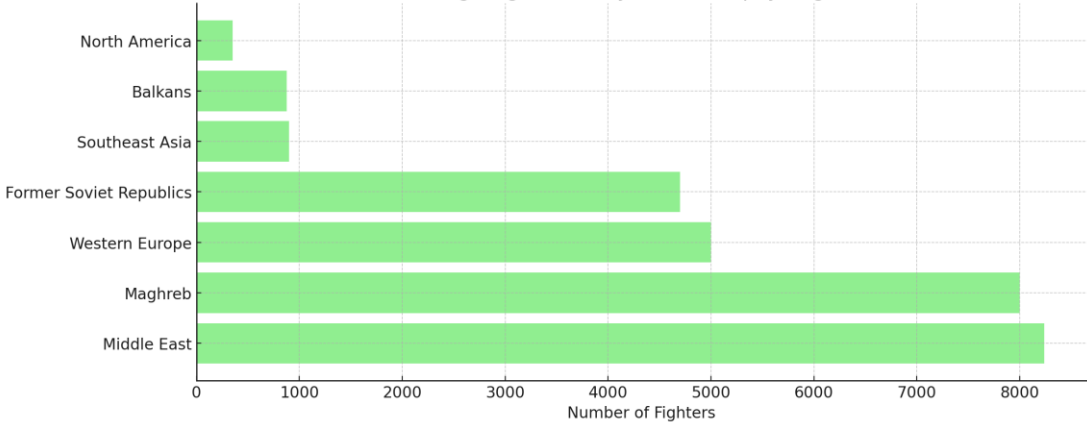


# BACKGROUND FTF - FIGURES

Number of Foreign Fighters in Syria and Iraq by Country (2014-2015)



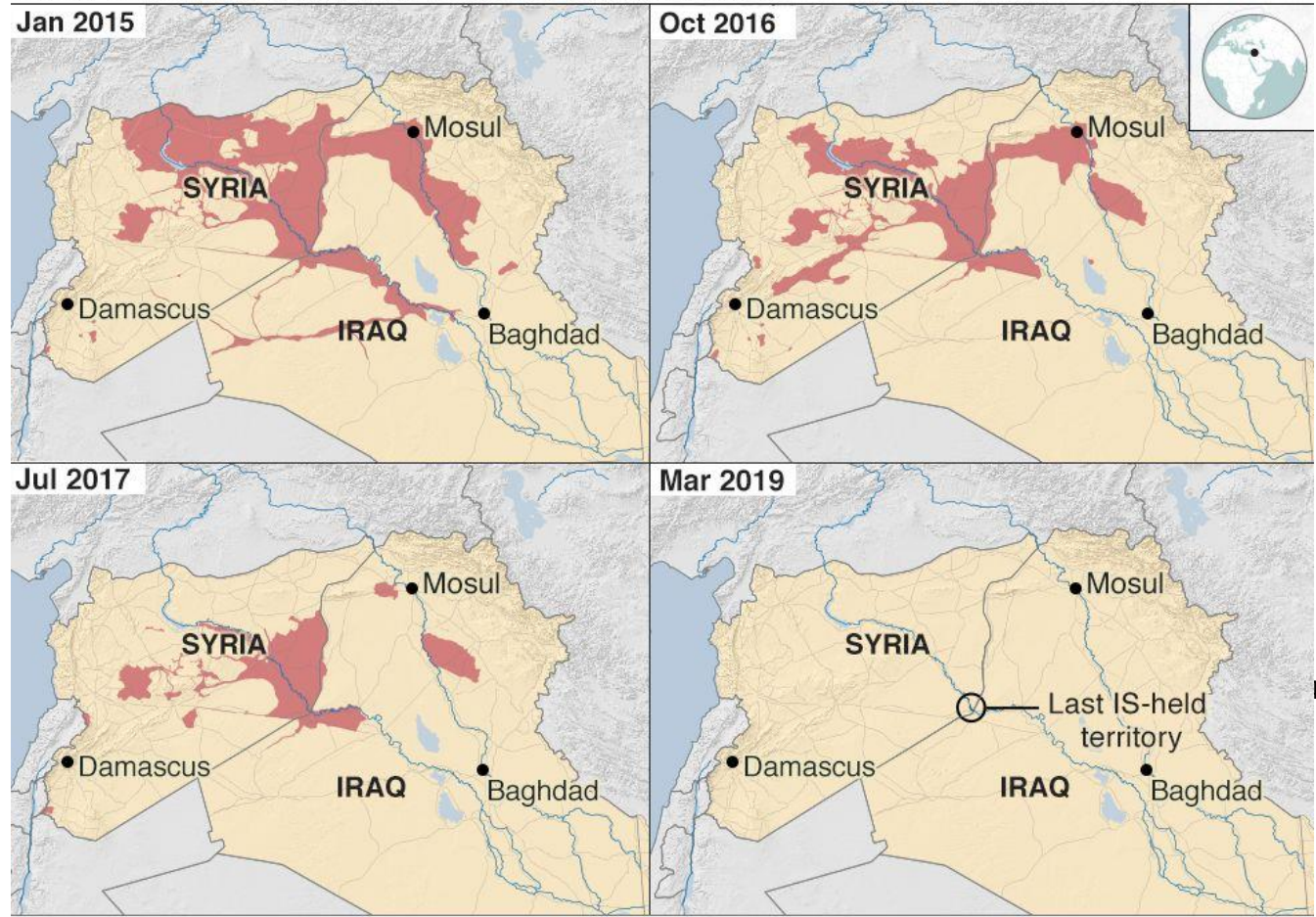
Number of Foreign Fighters in Syria and Iraq by Region (2014-2015)



# BACKGROUND FTF - FIGURES

- IS Peak in 2015
- Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF–OIR)
- Establishment of Camps (Al Hol, Roj)
- Establishment of so called “Makeshift Prisons”

How the area under IS control has shrunk



Source: Conflict Monitor by IHS Markit.



Al Hol. Established 2014  
53,800 IDP **in 2019**

27,700 Iraqi Nationals  
18,100 Syrian Nationals  
8,000 Third Country Nationals

# UN SUPPORT



## Global

UNSCR 2178 (2014)

UNSCR 2396 (2017)

## Iraq specific:

All of UN Framework for Implementation of the Global Framework in Iraq: Supporting the return of Iraqi Nationals from northeast Syria

# OPERATIONAL MECHANISMS (IRAQ CONTEXT)



## UN APPROACH

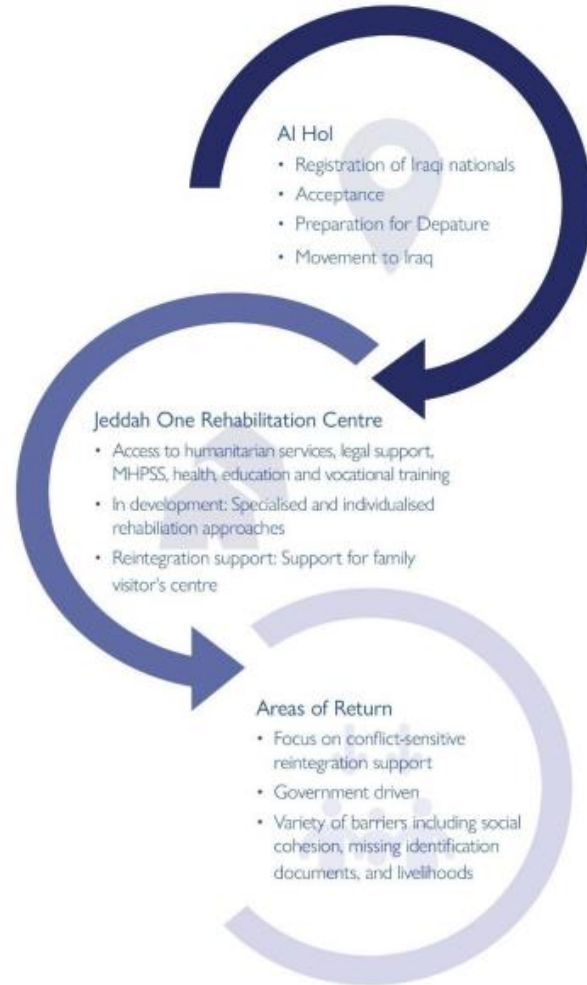
### 4 Technical Working Groups

UNODC in charge of:

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE-BASED REHABILITATION OF ADULT RETURNING IRAQI DETAINEES**



# OPERATIONAL MECHANISMS



**From Al Hol once cleared to Jeddah.....**

**In Jeddah, required support.....**

**From Jeddah back to the communities....**



# OPERATIONAL MECHANISMS

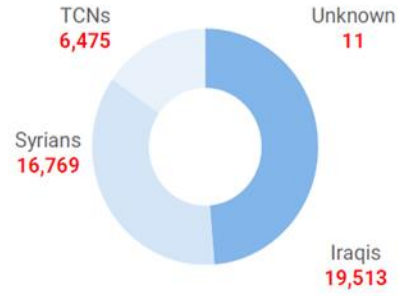
(IRAQI CONTEXT)

**15 Transport rounds conducted so far**  
**As of 1 May 2024 the total of 2,261 Households (8,901 individuals) have left Al-Hol.**

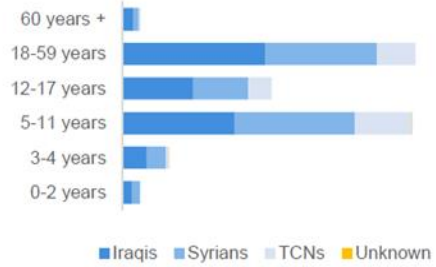
**Currently in Jeddah 1: 829 Households (3078 individuals)**



Breakdown of the nationalities of residents of Al Hol camp



Al Hol camp population-age groups



# UN(ODC) SUPPORT



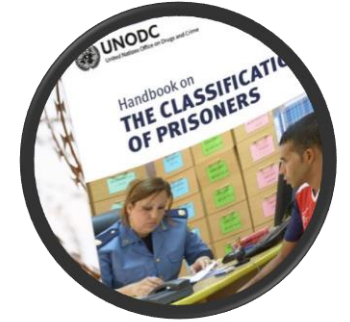
**POLICY DIALOGUE**



**TECHNICAL SUPPORT**



**CAPACITY BUILDING**



**MEMBER STATE ENGAGEMENT**



# FTF RELATED CHALLENGES



## LACK OF COMMITMENT

Repatriation to Member States

(Minors, even not criminal responsible and liable)



## OVERCROWDED PRISONS

300% over capacity

Limited capacity of staff and management



## PUNITIVE SOCIETY

No structured restorative justice mechanism in place

Lack of political support for structured restitution.



## HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Individuals not willing to disengage from violent extremists beliefs.

Dire conditions in the camp(s)

## Read the reports

Supporting the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons (2018-2022)



Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters Detention Program (2019-2023)



Post-release Monitoring and Probation of Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters and Violent Extremist Prisoners in the Kyrgyz Republic (2021-2023)



Strengthening the Capacity of the Nigerian Correctional Service to Effectively Rehabilitate and Reintegrate Prisoners



Topics ▾ What we do ▾ Information For ▾ About us ▾ Field Offices ▾ Quick Links ▾ Executive Director

» Topics » Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice » Prison Reform

## PRISON REFORM

Prison Reform Homepage

Nelson Mandela Rules

Violent Extremist Prisoners

Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration

Resources

*"No one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens but its lowest ones."*

Nelson Mandela

**The United Nations  
Standard Minimum Rules for  
the Treatment of Prisoners**  
(the Nelson Mandela Rules)

### Stay up to date on prison and penal reform

Subscribe to UNODC's prison and penal reform newsletter for news, updates, stories and more.

Subscribe now

- [April 2024 newsletter](#)
- [December 2023 newsletter](#)
- [September 2023 newsletter](#)
- [July 2023 newsletter](#)
- [April 2023 newsletter](#)

Visit our UNODC Prison Reform Homepage and subscribe our Newsletter for news, updates, stories and more

[REGISTER HERE](#)



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

# THANK YOU!

CONTACT : [TORBEN.ADAMS@UN.ORG](mailto:TORBEN.ADAMS@UN.ORG) / [TORBENADAMS@RUB.DE](mailto:TORBENADAMS@RUB.DE)

NEXT: QUESTION AND ANSWER PANEL

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE