

Report of the Kurdish Red Crescent – Turkish attacks and damage in Northern Syria October 2024

On the night of October 23rd 2024, Turkey resumed major attacks across Northeast and Northwest Syria as well as Northern Iraq. The Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria states that these attacks killed 17 people in Northern Syria, killed 6 in Shingal, and injured 65 (including children) over four days. These attacks mainly targeted civilian infrastructure, echoing the Turkish attacks in Fall 2023 ([report from October 2023](#)) The massive damage has caused critical impacts on the population, and will have long-lasting impacts on the region's security and stability.



Oil station in Derik (Image by KRC Media Office)

KRC emergency teams referred 46 severely injured people to hospitals, with the majority of cases in Qamishli and Kobane.

Nearby airstrikes forced two health points in Qamishli to temporarily suspend services. These health points provide vaccinations to children. At the time of writing this report the health points have reopened.



Public health point in Qamishli, partially damaged through attacks nearby (Image by KRC Media Office)

Attacks on the main power supply stations of Kobane, Amuda, Qamishli, and Tirbespiye have left over 150,000 families and 366 villages without water or electricity.

As in 2023, Turkish strikes again targeted the region's food supply and related services. In Ain Issa grain silos were struck; bakeries in Kobane and Amuda were attacked and are out of service.



Electricity stations in Qamishli and Tirbespiye (Images by KRC Media Office)

Oil and gas stations in Derik, Al Swedia, Tirbespiye, and Giro Ziro were targeted and destroyed. At the time of the attack, these facilities were only partially repaired from the Turkish attacks in 2023. Those stations were the main fuel source for generators powering regional bakeries and drinking water wellpumps. As a result of the attacks, over 600 water wells across the region are out of service.



The Giro Ziro Oil Station (Image from the KRC Media Office)



Al Swedia Station (Image by KRC Media Office)

One oil field and two refineries were targeted and destroyed in Tirbespiye.



The Al-Ouda Oil Field (Image by KRC Media Office)

In Rimelan, a construction company, an additional oil station, a medical oxygen production facility, bakeries, as well as other public and private service centers were destroyed.



Bakery in Derik (Image by KRC Media Office)



Damaged grain and flour storage facility in Qamishli (Image by KRC Media Office)

In Qamishli a grain center was hit and destroyed, as well as a cheese factory in Derik.



Cheese factory in Derik (Image by KRC Media Office)



Additional targets were a plastic factory, a sewing factory, a car garage, a car workshop, a cement factory, and an agriculture center.

Turkey attacked regional security forces that were securing a prison housing IS prisoners, damaging the building and facilitating an escape attempt. At the time of this report the situation is under control, however it illustrates Turkey's willingness to strengthen IS to accomplish its goal of destabilizing the region.

Turkey's attacks directly target the civilian population of Northern Syria by destroying critical elements of the region's food, water, and power supplies. Electrical system infrastructure and food, water, and diesel supplies had not yet recovered from damage inflicted in the 2023 attacks. Levels of these resources are now critically low, impacting daily life and the functioning of essential public services such as ambulances. This happens as the Self-Administration shelters thousands of newly-arriving refugees fleeing conflict in Lebanon.

Temperatures in Northern Syria will soon drop. The region relies on diesel as its primary heating source. Turkey's intentional targeting of fuel, food, and water supplies as winter approaches endangers the region's population through a combination of hunger, cold, and disease.

Turkey's attacks on civilian infrastructure compromise the progress that has been made to stabilize Northern Syria. Cutting off access to basic life necessities worsens living conditions, increasing pressure on people to leave the region. This occurs as Turkey leverages Syrian refugees to secure financial and political support from Europe.

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