

# SYRIA: UN Working With NATO to Provide Pretext for Intervention

UN "aid" program to be used in establishing NATO "humanitarian corridors."

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Recently reported in Reuters', "[UN seeks Syria nod for major aid operation](#)," the UN is seeking to bring in "aid workers" and open offices all across Syria in order to carry out what they call a "major humanitarian operation."

Syria has criticized certain nations of what is clearly the "politicizing of humanitarian aid." Fortune 500-funded US policy think-tank, Brookings Institution has openly stated that US foreign policy would best be served by taking advantage of "gaining humanitarian access" allowing the West to "add further coercive action to its efforts" to topple the Syrian government. Specifically, Brookings foresees gaining such access may lead to establishing "safe-havens and humanitarian corridors" protected by NATO military forces, in yet another example of the "mission creep" that led to regime change in Libya. Such "creep" would give proxy militant forces unassailable positions to continue their campaign of violence against the Syrian people.



## Saving Syria: Assessing Options for Regime Change

*Daniel Byman, Michael Doran, Kenneth Pollack, and Salwan Shakil*

SYRIA IS TRAPPED ON A CHIMBERLING PRECIPICE, and however it might fall will entail significant risks for the United States and for the Syrian people.

The brutal regime of Bashar al-Assad is employing its loyal military forces and sectarian thugs to crush the opposition and maintain its tyranny. Even if Bashar falls, Syria may not be out of the woods: an increasingly likely alternative to the current regime is a bloody civil war similar to what we saw in Lebanon, Bosnia, Congo, and most recently in Iraq. The horrors of such a war might even exceed the brutal massacres of Assad's control, and would cause spillover into Syria's neighbors—Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Israel—that could be disastrous for them and for American interests in the Middle East.<sup>1</sup>

But the unrest in Syria, which is now entering its second year, also offers some important opportunities, ones that would come from the fall of the regime of Bashar al-Assad, whose family has ruled the country with an iron grip for over forty years. Syria is Iraq's older and most important ally in the Arab world, and the Iranian regime has doubled down on Assad, providing him with financial aid and military support to shore up his regime. Assad's departure would deal a significant blow to Tehran, further isolating it at a time when it has few friends in the region or the world. In addition, Damascus is steadily (or is hastily) moving toward Israel, and Assad's regime is also a longtime supporter of terrorist groups like Hezbollah and Hamas, and has at times aided al-Qaida terrorists and former regime

elements in Iraq. The regime's collapse, therefore, could have significant benefits for the United States and its allies in the region.

Actually ousting Assad, however, will not be easy. Although the Obama administration has for months called for Assad to go, every policy option to remove him is flawed, and some could even make the situation worse—seemingly a recipe for inaction. Doing nothing, however, means standing by while Assad murders his own people, and Syria plunges into civil war and risk becoming a failed state. Already the violence is staggering: as of March 2012, at least 8,000 Syrians have died and thousands more have been arrested and tortured in trying to topple the regime. At the same time, Syria is fragmenting. The Syrian opposition remains divided, and the Free Syrian Army is more a brand than a meaningful, unified force. Al-Qaida is waging fights to join the fray in Syria, and sectarian killings and atrocities are growing. Should the violence continue to intensify, Syria's neighbors may increase their meddling, and instability could spread, further weakening already-fragile neighbors like Iraq and Lebanon.

So to prevent U.S. interests, Assad cannot triumph. But a failed Syria, one stricken by civil war, would be just as bad. Thus, U.S. policy must walk this tightrope, trying to remove Assad, but doing so in a way that keeps Syria an intact state capable of policing its borders and ensuring order at home. At the end of the day, however, removing Assad may not be viable

Image: Brookings Institution's Middle East Memo #21 "[Assessing Options for Regime](#)

[Change \(.pdf\)](#),” makes no secret that the humanitarian “responsibility to protect” is but a pretext for long-planned regime change.

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Despite the UN’s “peace plan” being [fully rejected by both the Syrian rebels](#) and their Western and Arab League backers [who have openly pledged cash, weapons, and support for them to continue fighting](#), in full violation of the proposed ceasefire, the Western media has instead accused the Syrian government of failing to meet its obligations. As the West continues to fuel the violence, and if “humanitarian access” is approved, military intervention will be proposed to combat what will be claimed to be Syrian government “belligerence.”

Driving the echo chamber that is the Western media, are corporate-financier funded ([beginning on page 18, .pdf](#)), [Neo-Conservative led](#) think-tanks like the Henry Jackson Society (HJS), whose representatives can be found propagandizing on [Qatari government propaganda outlet Al Jazeera](#) accusing the Syrian government of “serially violating” the terms of the UN proposed “peace deal.” Al Jazeera regular, [Michael Weiss of HJS, openly admits that “diplomatic options” are merely being peddled](#) to satisfy public opinion and that ultimately NATO will act unilaterally, outside of the UN, to militarily intervene. ([video](#))....

The proposed timetable for the UN’s “humanitarian operation” is at least 6 months and represents a long-term commitment to continue destabilizing and ultimately overthrowing the Syrian government at any cost, in both resources and time. To prevent NATO military intervention, Syria and its allies would have to create a tactical environment on the ground that would make any such encroachment untenable. Additionally, undermining the international institutions disingenuously portraying the Syrian conflict as “one-sided” must be accomplished – this includes faux-rights advocates Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, along with various arms and personalities inside the UN itself.

Wall Street and London are determined to intervene in Syria with or without UN approval, illustrating again the absolute fraud that is “global governance” and international “rule of law.” When the West decides to intervene, it must be made sure that they do so openly as perpetrators of a war of aggression, as defined by the Nuremberg trials – the very precedence of the willfully abused international law now at play.

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