

Figure 2: Conflict events related to the movement of Um Batna fighters between 17-23 May 2021. Data from The Carter Center and ACLED.

As the Government of Syria (GoS) has regained territory, it has often allowed the movement of opposition fighters and their families tors

Russian military police escorted 150 opposition fighters and families from Um Batna to Turkish-held territory in Aleppo Governorate.⁴

Turkish armed forces and the Turkish-backed opposition Syrian National Army (SNA) prevented the Um Batna families from entering Turkish-held territory, stranding the families at the Abu Zandin crossing, near Al-Bab city, northern Aleppo Governorate.⁵ Turkish officials accused Russia of failing to coordinate the transfer.⁶

Protestors in Al-Bab city denounced Turkey's and the SNA's rejection, demanding that the Um Batna families be allowed to enter their territory. In response, SNA fighters dispersed the protests violently,⁷ claiming that they were attempting to find accommodation for the Um Batna families and check their COVID-19 status.⁸

After a 30-hour wait, the Um Batna families were sent to HTS-controlled territory in Idlib Governorate.^{9,10}



⁴ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/482946>, <https://npasyria.com/en/59590/>

⁵ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/483127>

⁶ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/483127>

⁷ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/483269>

⁸ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/483269>

⁹ <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/483351>

¹⁰ <https://npasyria.com/en/59639/>

Facing widespread discontent, the KAA revoked the fuel price increase.²⁰ However, demonstrations continued over the killing of protesters the previous day.²¹

For earlier weekly conflict summaries, please click [here](#). For an interactive map of historical areas of control in Syria, please click [here](#).

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²⁰ <https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/story/24536-Following-protests.-Kurdish-led-authorities-in-northeast-Syria-overturn-fuel-price-increase>

²¹ <https://www.syriahr.com/en/216594/>