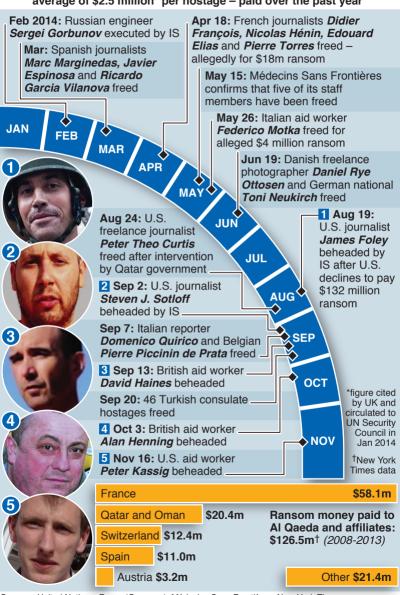
Western hostages held in Syria

Kidnapping westerners for ransom has become big business for the Islamic State group (IS) and Nusra Front, with some \$35-45 million – an average of \$2.5 million* per hostage – paid over the past year



Sources: United Nations, Focus (Germany), Médecins Sans Frontières, New York Times, National Union of Journalists Pictures: Associated Press, Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS