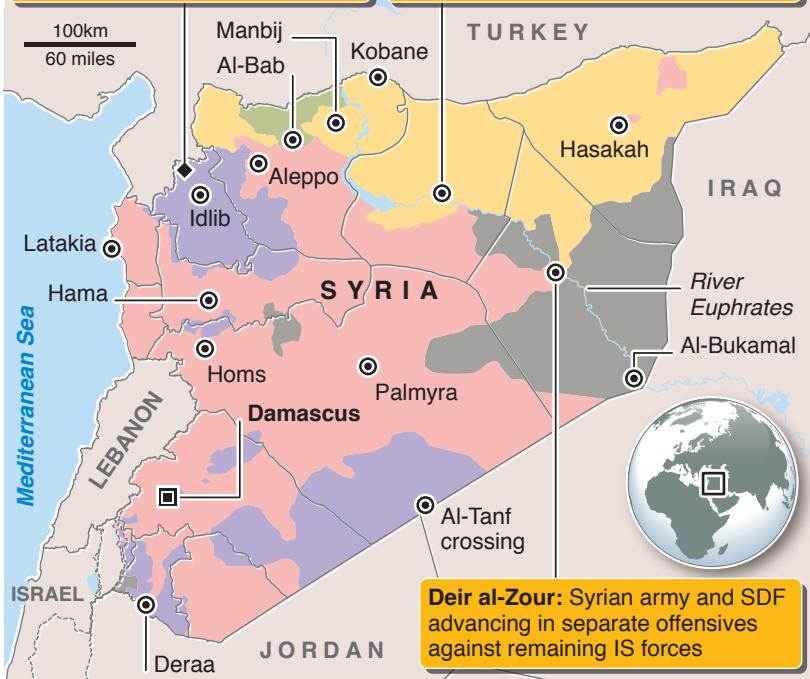


# Russia says 85 percent of Syria won back

Russia's military says that Syrian troops have liberated about 85 percent of the war-torn country from militants, a major turn-around two years after Moscow intervened to lend a hand to its embattled long-time ally

**Idlib province:** Hundreds of IS defectors aiming to flee to Turkey

**Raqqa:** Besieged IS garrison gradually losing ground to U.S.-backed SDF



**AREAS OF CONTROL** (as of September 13, 2017)

Syrian government and allies

Syrian rebel groups

Turkish-backed rebel forces

So-called Islamic State (IS) group

Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) – Kurdish and Arab militia