



## WAR STATISTICS 2016

- ▶ In 2016, 9,425 km<sup>2</sup> of territory was liberated from the hands of ISIS

### YPG WAR STATISTICS FROM 2016

2016 was a really important year for the revolution in Rojava and Syria. Against the continuing attacks of the barbaric Islamic State, our forces dutifully defended people all along the border. Being part of the military alliance SDF, our forces joined the strategical operations such as the Wrath of Xabûr, Martyr Elîn and Cûdî's campaign, Martyr Commander Ebû Leyla's campaign and the Wrath of the Euphrates, which sought to liberate territory from the oppressive Islamist mercenaries.

Islamist mercenaries belonging to the Syrian National Army have been attacking our forces non-stop in Afrin and the Şêx Meqsûd neighbourhood of Aleppo. Among the range of weapons used, they have used several banned weapons to attack our forces and particularly to attack civilians.

Besides these attacks, the Turkish Army has intensified its aggression. With the occupation of Jerabulus, the Turkish Army invaded Syria and massacred civilians. On the boarder, many of our citizens have been murdered. Especially in the last days of the year, the Turkish Army has increased its attacks against our forces.

The Ba'ath regime also carried out two major assaults against our forces and our citizens. Our forces responded with a large-scale defence strategy and were thus able to force out the regime.

**Note:** *The number of civilian casualties in our statistics only include casualties within the territories which our forces control, such as the internal security forces Asayish and others. There have been further civilian casualties outside of our territories.*

### ATTACKS OF THE BA'ATH REGIME

This year the Ba'ath regime carried out two major attacks against Heseke and Qamishlo which led to three days of fighting in both cases. Besides these attacks, 17 other attacks have been carried out. Cities and civilian sites were bombarded, including with the use of war planes. 28 civilians were killed in these attacks, among



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them one child, 12 were wounded and 134 houses and civilian workplaces were damaged.

Our forces stood strong against these attacks and managed to fend them off. As a result of this, the strategical Elaya prison in Qamishlo, including many military bases, was taken from the regime's control. Also, in Haseke the Xiwêran and Neşwê neighbourhoods, as well as other parts of the city, were liberated from the hands of the regime.

### **ATTACKS OF THE TURKISH ARMY**

Throughout the year, the Turkish Army carried out 191 cross border attacks. On 169 occasions, houses, civilians properties and defensive positions held by our forces were attacked with heavy weaponry. The Turkish army entered the territory of Rojava twice with helicopters, 7 times with drones and 13 times with tanks.

As a result of these attacks, 31 civilians were killed and 138 civilians were wounded. One YPG member, one member of the Asayish security forces and three military conscripts were martyred. A further eight members of our forces were wounded. As a result of these attacks, many houses and civilian properties were damaged and some houses were burnt to the ground.

### **ATTACKS OF THE SYRIAN NATIONAL ARMY**

In 2016, armed groups of the Syrian National Army, also known under the name of Free Syrian Army, Al Nusra and Al-Şam carried out 284 attacks against the region of Afrin, the Şêx Meqsûd neighbourhood of Aleppo, using mortars, hand-made cannons and heavy weaponry. On three occasions, they used chemical weapons and poison gas against the inhabitants of Şêx Meqsûd and our forces. As a result, 51 inhabitants of Şêx Meqsûd were killed and a further 104 were wounded.

### **ATTACKS OF THE ISLAMIC STATE**

In 2016, the Islamic State attacked the Federation of Northern Syria 493 times with mortars, missiles, mines, car bombs and various heavy weaponry. As a result of this, 15 of our citizens were killed and 14 wounded. In the region between the village of Ebû Fas and Şedadê, the Islamic State used banned weapons, such as poison gas, against our forces.



## **STATISTICS OF SDF MILITARY CAMPAIGNS**

Being part of the military alliance SDF, our forces joined the following military campaigns: Wrath of Xabûr, Martyr Elîn and Cûdî's campaign, Martyr Commander Ebû Leyla's campaign and the Wrath of the Euphrates.

In these operations 9,425km<sup>2</sup> of territory was liberated from the hands of the Islamic State. Those 9.425km<sup>2</sup> include the large cities of Minbij and Shaddadi and tens of smaller districts, 699 villages and a large number of smaller villages and farmlands.

During these operations, 4,622 Islamist mercenaries were killed, thousands wounded and 132 were captured.

203 military vehicles, including 45 vehicles with heavy DShK machine guns, 15 tanks, 32 mortars and 5 rocket launcher were destroyed.

## **STATISTICS OF WEAPONRY AND AMMUNITIONS**

As a result of all of the campaigns in 2016, we siezed 2,574 items of various weaponry, as well as thousands of items of ammunition belonging to those weapons, military tools, medical supplies and hundreds of vehicles.

Victorious heroes

The achievements of 2016 were won with the blood of our martyrs. Those heroes fought against all attempts of occupation so that we may live freely on our own lands today. These are the vanguards of the revolution in all of Syria.

In 2016, 613 of our courageous comrades were martyred as seeds for the land of Kurdistan so that the flowers of freedom may bloom on our land. We commemorate those comrades with the utmost respect and honour.

The families of the martyrs, our people and our comrades will see their struggle through to the end. The strength we get from our martyrs is the guarantee of even bigger victories in the future.

**YPJ Press Center, 5th of January 2017**