

UN Calls for the Protection of Civilians in Deir-ez-Zor Governorate, Syria

Amman, 17 September 2017

The UN is calling on all parties to the conflict to ensure the protection of civilians from the effects of violence in eastern Deir-ez-Zor, following increased reports of civilian deaths and injuries due to airstrikes in recent days.

“The UN is deeply concerned for the safety and protection of civilians - men, women and children - who are victims of continued fighting, airstrikes and military operations in Deir-ez-Zor,” said Ramesh Rajasingham, the acting interim Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria.

“I call on all parties to do their utmost to ensure the safety and well being of civilians in the conduct of military operations and strictly adhere to the international humanitarian law principles of distinction, proportionality, and precautions in and from the effects of attack.”

On 14 September alone, dozens of civilians were reportedly killed following a number of air-borne strikes in several locations in eastern Deir Ez-Zor Governorate.

On 10 September, air-borne strikes hit a crossing point in Elbuleil town, reportedly killing and injuring tens of civilians.

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