



## REPORT ON SITUATION IN NORTH EAST SYRIA 26th October 2019

### ***Overview***

The areas in which Turkish backed forces continue to attack and push for more territory in clear violation of the ceasefire include:

The Abu Rassen area east of Sere Kaniye, where there have been ongoing ground clashes and shelling since the start of the ceasefire, and a drone strike on the 23 October. This has resulted in several civilian casualties

There have been attacks by Turkish proxy forces in the surroundings of Manbij since the start of the ceasefire, including in villages Arab Hassan, Umm Jalud and Umm Adsa. Some of the heaviest fighting is taking place in the axis between Tel Tamer and Sere Kaniye, where Turkish proxies are seeking to gain ground on contested territory northwest of Tel Tamer.

An American military convoy has re-entered North East Syria. Our on the ground team reports that they moved through Qamishlo city, supervised by American helicopters. Some reports indicate that they have taken positions around oil fields east of Qamishlo, and others indicate that at least 13 vehicles are heading to Deir ez Zor. The Syrian Army has also deployed more troops, notably around the villages of Kobane region and in Abu Surra, a village northwest of Ayn Issa on the M4. Meanwhile, Germany has announced that it is ready to send forces to Syria.

### ***Humanitarian crisis***

Former residents of Ayn Issa camp have been relocated to Al Hol camp. Reports of assault of civilians and looting continue to emerge from Sere Kaniye and Tel Abyad. The Joint Crisis Coordination Centre of the Kurdish Regional Government of Iraq have announced that Bardarash camp in Duhok, Iraq is now at capacity with approximately 2,000 Syrian refugee families (estimated at 12,000 people), and the regional government is looking for sites for new camps.

### ***Sere Kaniye (Ras al Ain) Tel Abyad and Tel Tamer***

In the morning Turkish proxies launched attacks on Dawudiyah in Ras Al-Ayn countryside with tanks and howitzers (artillery), including the area around Zirkan/Abu Rasin, directly east of Sere Kaniye. Turkish drones were also in the airspace. Three civilian deaths were reported, one of them a 30 year old mother of 4 children. Throughout the day there was heavy fighting in the villages of Souda, Manajir, Asadiye, Leylan, Bir Nuh, Erisha and Salihiye, all on the Sere Kaniye - Tel Tamer axis. The attacks continued throughout the day and into the evening. Dozens of families were displaced from villages south of the city due to the attacks.