

## French Construction Firm Lafarge Paid “Taxes” to ISIS to Continue Operating in Syria

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

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*French construction material giant Lafarge [paid ‘taxes’ to ISIS](#) in order to continue its business operations in Syria throughout the still on-going conflict.*

*The company had a plant located in Jalabiya, northern Syria – an area under the control of ISIS – which was opened in 2010 just before the outbreak of war*

Lafarge paid ISIS a ‘tax’ that meant their vehicles were allowed to pass through ISIS controlled areas and checkpoints unhindered.

Lafarge is the world leader in building materials and one of the biggest players in cement, aggregates and concrete businesses.

ISIS eventually seized the site in Syria in 2014, but until then Lafarge was absolutely guilty of providing material support to terrorists.

Kurds secured the area in February 2015 and it is now a base for Western coalition special forces.

Corporations are regularly allowed to break and bend laws, and HSBC was a [favoured bank of terrorists](#) and faced absolutely no repercussions, but openly funding terrorism is perhaps new territory for corporate crime.

*Do you expect criminal charges to be brought against Lafarge?*

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