

# New Batch of Ex-ISIS Members Transferred from Syria to Ukraine: Report

Since the start of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, hundreds of members of Al-Qaeda and ISIS have reportedly been transferred to fight in Ukraine

By [The Cradle](#)

Global Research, March 30, 2022

[The Cradle](#) 28 March 2022

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*Dozens of extremist fighters have made their way from Syria’s northern Idlib governorate to Ukraine to fight against Russian troops, according to a report by [Sputnik Arabic](#).*

At least 87 former members of ISIS were allegedly transferred to the Syrian-Turkish border on 26 March under the direct supervision of the leader of the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) armed group, **Abu Mohammad al-Julani**.

The report indicates that most of the fighters are Iraqi, Chechen, Tunisian, and French nationalities.

On 8 March, 450 HTS militants [arrived](#) in Ukraine to join the fight against the Russian army.

According to the family members of the militants, high-ranking HTS leaders have been coordinating with senior leaders of the Turkistan Islamic Party group, Ansar al-Tawhid, and Hurras al-Din groups, to facilitate the passage of the extremists from Idlib to Turkey and then on to Ukraine.

Since early March, the foreign intelligence service of Russia (SVR RF) has issued [warnings](#) that the US and NATO are providing ISIS fighters from Syria with special training at the US army’s Al-Tanf military base in Syria, and then sending them to Ukraine.

The SVR statement detailed the history of the secret operation they uncovered, saying:

“At the end of 2021, the US released from prison ... several dozen Daesh terrorists,

including citizens of Russia and CIS countries. These individuals were sent to the US-controlled Al-Tanf base, where they underwent special training in subversive and terrorist warfare methods with a focus on the Donbass region.”

Foreign mercenaries from around the globe have joined in on the side of Ukraine, as **President Volodymyr Zelensky** [pleads](#) for global assistance in the wake of the Kremlin’s special military operation.

Russia launched a special military operation in Ukraine on 24 February after responding to the call for assistance by the newly-recognized republics of Donetsk and Luhansk.

Despite recognition of their independence by Russia, Ukrainian armed forces continued to shell civilian targets and to breach the borders of the two republics, prompting the leaders of the republics to formally ask Russia for military assistance.

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