

Planned Russian Naval base in Syria in the East Mediterranean

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#), [Russia and FSU](#)

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The decision announced in early June to set up a Russian military base in Syria on the Eastern Mediterranean bears a direct relationship to the war on Lebanon and Israeli ambitions to control militarily the entire Eastern mediterranean coastline.

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Russia has begun works in the Syrian port of Tartus seeking to built a full-scale naval base for the ships of the Black Sea Fleet, currently based in Ukraine's Sevastopol, the Kommersant newspaper reported on Friday, quoting unnamed sources in the Defense Ministry and the General Staff of the Russian Navy.

The paper noted that this is the first time Russia is setting up a military base outside the CIS since the fall of the USSR and that the base will allow Moscow to pursue its own line in the Middle East. The seeting up of a Russian military base

Russia has also started work in the port of Latakia in Syria, the newspaper said. The base in Tartus and the new mooring in Latakia will be able to serve the needs of the Black Sea Fleet and possibly the North Sea Fleet as well.

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