

## Toxic Deaths in Syria: Who Has the Burden of Proof?

By [Patrick Henningsen](#)

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

Theme: [Militarization and WMD](#), [US NATO](#)

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*Wildly varying reports have emerged of recent chemical weapons use in Syria, with hundreds allegedly killed in the latest attack.*

This comes on the same day that the UN inspectors arrive in Damascus to investigate allegations of use of toxic arms.

Initially, Al-Arabiya posted news of 280 victims on Twitter. Later, the news outlet upgraded the figure up to 1,188 victims quoting the Free Syrian Army.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights had a much lower figure, claiming dozens of people were killed, including children.

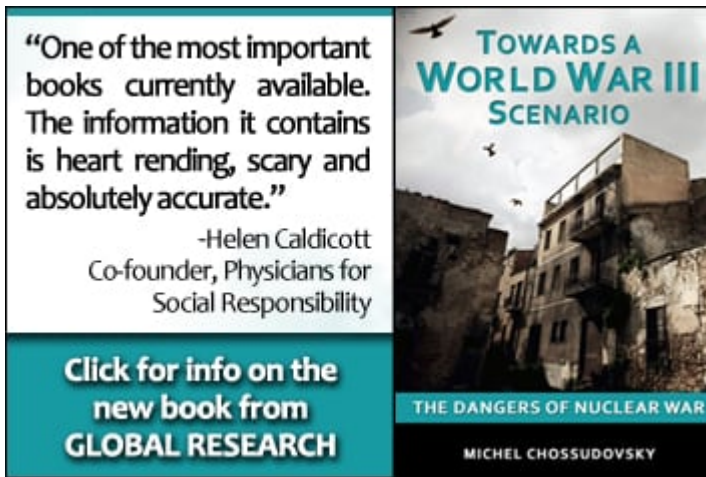
News agencies such as Reuters and AP mostly put the numbers of victims at hundreds, but say that reports can't be independently verified.

For more, RT talks to reporter and international affairs analyst Patrick Henningsen.

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