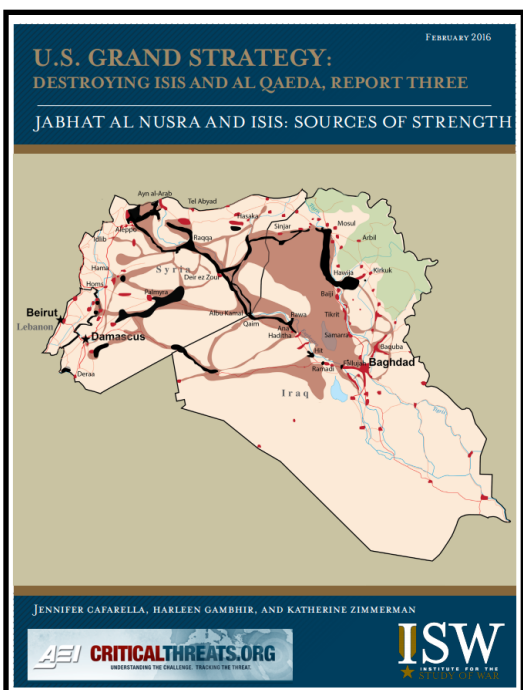


SkyNews
"Secrets of the I.S. Files"
5/3/2016

"ISIS is executing a campaign to encourage and then also to **direct and resource attacks on the West**"



"Al Qaeda is pursuing **phased, gradual, and sophisticated strategies** that favor letting ISIS attract the attention — and attacks — of the West while it builds the human infrastructure to support and sustain major gains in the future and for the long term."



NBC News
5/2/2016



Kim Kagan
President, ISW

“The Iraqi military ceased to function as a coherent force in 2014 under pressure from ISIS.”

5/2/2016



"A hybrid enemy that can shapeshift from a semi-conventional force into its roots as a terrorist organization."

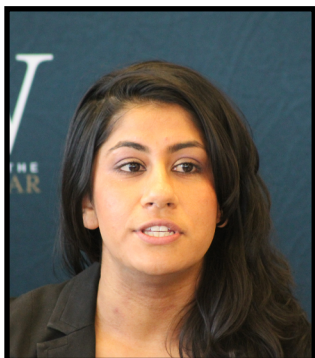
AP

5/12/2016

"This conflict will protract and there will be winners and losers."

Agence France Presse

5/21/2016



Harleen Gambhir
*Non-Resident
Counter-terrorism Fellow*

“The actual creation of ISIS's wilayats or governorates was a much more intentional and phased campaign.”

Frontline

5/13/2016

"Foreign fighters are an incredible asset for ISIS."

SkyNews

"Secrets of the I.S. Files"

5/3/2016

"ISIS also has a more insidious campaign, which is its campaign to polarize and destabilize the West"

SkyNews

"Secrets of the I.S. Files"

5/3/2016



Christopher Kozak

Syria Analyst

On which countries are flying through
Syrian Airspace:

**"I am 100 percent
certain we know who is
flying where."**

The Herald

5/7/2016



Patrick Martin

Iraq Analyst

**"Weakening ability of the (Iraqi security
forces) to adequately and consistently protect
the greater Baghdad area. "**

AP

5/12/2016

**"ISIS made a concerted effort
to ensure the city would be**

unlivable."

5/5/2016



**"These explosive attacks will play a major factor in the ongoing
political dynamics in Baghdad and aggravate already tense relations
between the government and protesters, if the government fails to
guarantee basic security in the city."**



5/16/2016



“In conventional war you can do certain things to force people to surrender...But as long as [Isis] have bullets they will fight. As long as they have suicide vests they will fight.”

5/30/2016

FT

Christopher Harmer

Non-Resident

Senior Naval Analyst



“If ISIS can expose the ISF [Iraqi Security Force] as incompetent and incapable of defending Baghdad, there is no way they will be able to lead an offensive against Mosul.”

The Daily Beast

5/11/2016

"ISIS knows they can no longer have a strategy to territorial expansion. If ISIS can get off a spectacular attack, that is going to force Iraqi security forces to be in a defensive posture not an offensive one."

The Daily Beast

5/11/2016

"With the force structure we have in place, we are vulnerable."

5/4/2016



"Because they blend in so well with the population and are, for all practical purposes, indistinguishable from the population when using long-distance surveillance technology, they can mass and attack at the time and place of its choosing."

5/4/2016



"We are seeing the further fracturing of the population of the Shiite militias."

The Daily Beast

5/17/2016



Jennifer Cafarella

Syria Analyst

Evans Hanson Fellow

"Meanwhile, through military and religious training camps for children, it is indoctrinating **a new generation of fighters** to wage a future war against the West...we must abandon our fixation on Isis and recognise Jabhat al-Nusra as the bigger threat."

5/5/2016

The **INDEPENDENT**

"The group already governs parts of Syria with a form of religious law akin to that used by Isis."

More of ISW in the News

Voice of America

5/2/2016

*The Washington Free
Beacon*

5/16/2016

Voice of America

5/17/2016

Stars and Stripes

5/20/2016

The Australian

5/31/2016

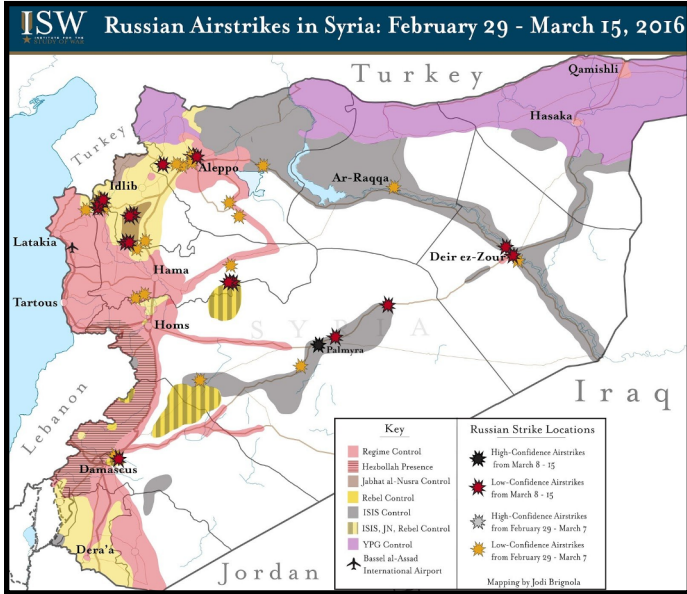
"The current political crisis threatens the stability of Iraq in an unprecedented manner, and **the crisis could see the government collapse.**"

ISW Iraq Team

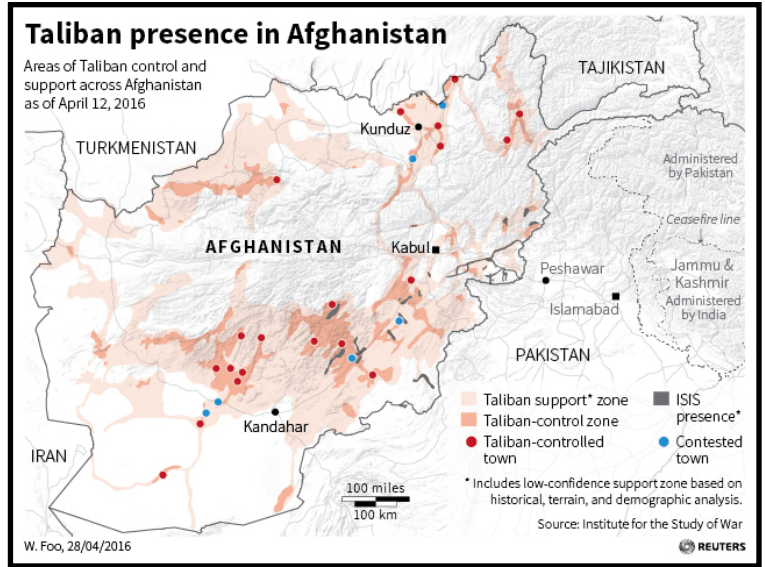
5/22/2016



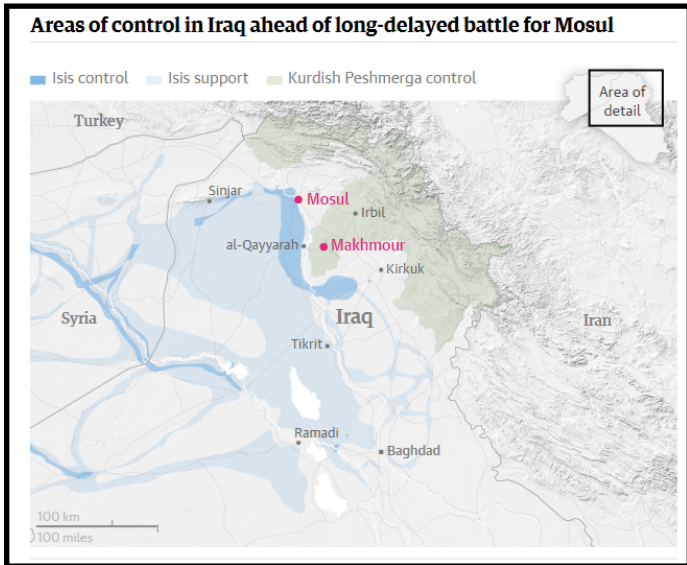
ISW Maps In The News



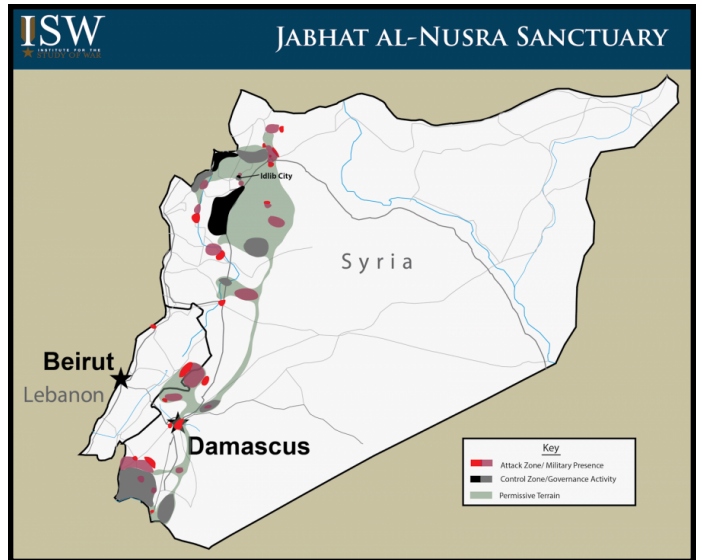
Business Insider
5/4/2016



Reuters
5/9/2016



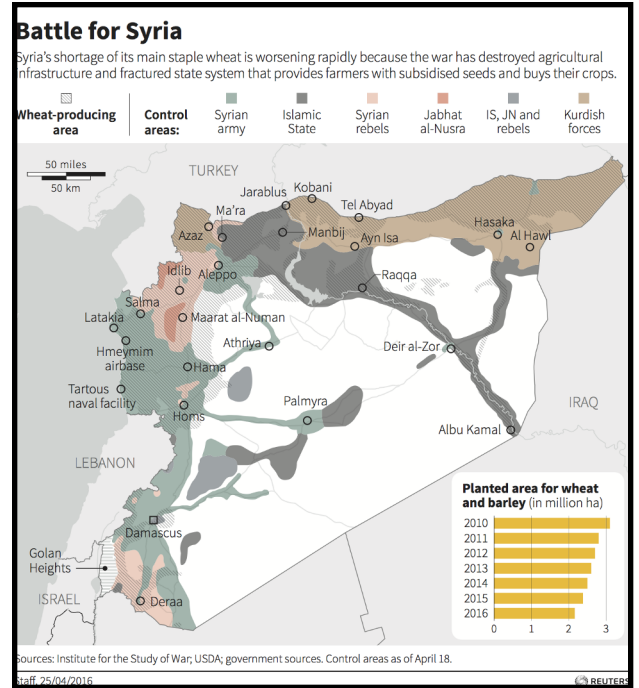
The Guardian
5/11/2016



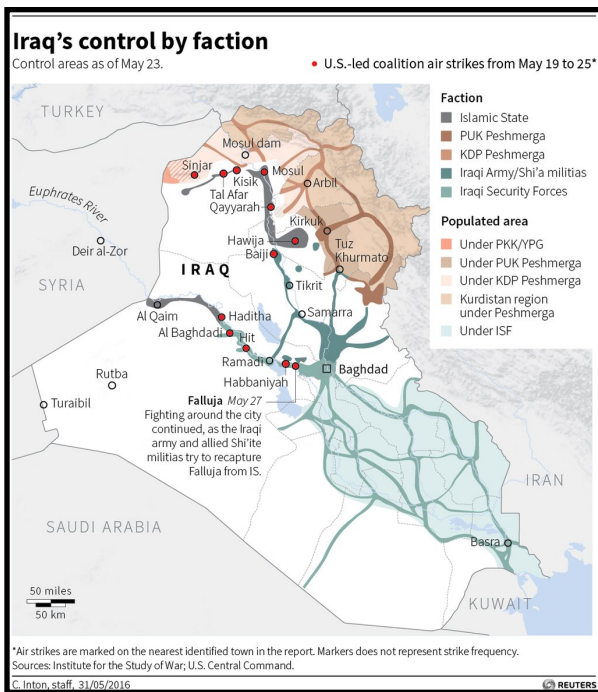
Public Radio International
5/2/2016



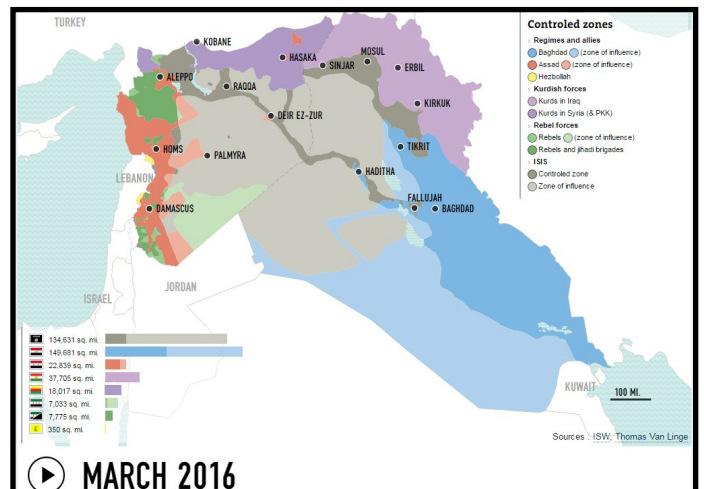
Fox News
5/5/2016



Business Insider
5/21/2016



Reuters
5/31/2016



Le Monde
5/31/2016