

Syria Tracker

Thinking about the conflict in Syria, here are some things Britain could do.

Would you support or oppose each of the following?

Sending food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies to civilians in Syria

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 77 | 12 | 11 |
| May 28-29 | 78 | 11 | 11 |
| April 28-29 | 72 | 15 | 13 |
| March 18-19 | 75 | 13 | 12 |

Sending protective clothing, such as flak jackets and helmets to the troops fighting to overthrow the Assad regime

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 41 | 33 | 27 |
| May 28-29 | 50 | 28 | 22 |
| April 28-29 | 46 | 30 | 24 |
| March 18-19 | 48 | 30 | 22 |

Sending defensive military supplies, such as anti-aircraft guns, to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 19 | 53 | 28 |
| May 28-29 | 24 | 50 | 27 |
| April 28-29 | 20 | 49 | 31 |
| March 18-19 | 23 | 50 | 27 |

Sending small arms such as hand guns to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 16 | 58 | 26 |
| May 28-29 | 19 | 55 | 26 |
| April 28-29 | 17 | 53 | 30 |
| March 18-19 | 18 | 54 | 28 |

Sending full-scale military supplies such as tanks and heavy artillery to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 10 | 66 | 24 |
| May 28-29 | 12 | 65 | 22 |
| April 28-29 | 11 | 64 | 25 |
| March 18-19 | 12 | 64 | 24 |

Sending British troops to fight alongside the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| August 22-23 | 9 | 74 | 17 |
| May 28-29 | 10 | 74 | 16 |
| April 28-29 | 10 | 71 | 20 |
| March 18-19 | 8 | 75 | 17 |

If Syria were to use chemical weapons against rebel fighters or civilians, would you support or oppose the following actions?

Sending food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies to civilians in Syria

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 71 | 15 | 14 |

Sending protective clothing, such as flak jackets and helmets to the troops fighting to overthrow the Assad regime

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 50 | 29 | 21 |

Sending defensive military supplies, such as anti-aircraft guns, to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 32 | 43 | 25 |

Sending small arms such as hand guns to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 27 | 47 | 26 |

Sending full-scale military supplies such as tanks and heavy artillery to the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 22 | 53 | 25 |

Sending British troops to fight alongside the anti-Assad troops

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| April 28-29 | 17 | 63 | 20 |

Below are some ways that Britain and other allied countries could intervene in the situation in Syria. Please say if you would support or oppose each action.

Enforcing a no-fly zone over Syria so the Syrian air force cannot attack rebels or civilians

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 53 | 21 | 26 |
| May 2-3 | 54 | 20 | 27 |
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 58 | 17 | 25 |
| February 6-7 | 60 | 18 | 22 |

Providing arms to the Syrian rebels

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 15 | 61 | 24 |
| May 2-3 | 17 | 56 | 26 |
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 15 | 55 | 30 |
| February 23-24 | 17 | 58 | 25 |
| February 9-10 | 17 | 61 | 22 |
| February 6-7 | 16 | 55 | 28 |

Imposing economic sanctions on Syria

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 50 | 25 | 26 |
| May 2-3 | 52 | 23 | 25 |
| 2012 | | | |
| February 23-24 | 58 | 19 | 17 |
| February 9-10 | 60 | 18 | 23 |

Blocking members of the Syrian government from visiting Western countries

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2012 | | | |
| February 23-24 | 63 | 16 | 21 |
| February 9-10 | 66 | 13 | 20 |

Sending British and allied troops into Syria to protect civilians from attack

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 12 | 69 | 19 |
| May 2-3 | 15 | 63 | 22 |
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 15 | 64 | 21 |
| February 23-24 | 17 | 60 | 22 |
| February 9-10 | 17 | 64 | 19 |
| February 6-7 | 18 | 60 | 22 |

Sending British and allied troops into Syria to help overthrow President Bashar al-Assad

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 10 | 69 | 22 |
| May 2-3 | 10 | 67 | 23 |
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 8 | 69 | 22 |
| February 23-24 | 11 | 66 | 23 |
| February 9-10 | 8 | 72 | 20 |
| February 6-7 | 9 | 66 | 24 |

Sending British and allied troops into Syria to secure chemical weapon and other critical sites

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 16 | 63 | 22 |

Surgical air strikes to destroy chemical weapon facilities

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|-------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| May 30-31 | 38 | 36 | 26 |

If Syria were to use chemical weapons against rebel fighters or civilians, would you support or oppose the following actions?

Enforcing a no-fly zone over Syria so the Syrian air force cannot attack rebels or civilians

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 68 | 12 | 20 |

Providing arms to the Syrian rebels

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 31 | 44 | 25 |

Sending British and allied troops into Syria to protect civilians from attack

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 31 | 48 | 21 |

Sending British and allied troops into Syria to help overthrow President Bashar al-Assad

| | Support | Oppose | Don't know |
|--------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2012 | | | |
| December 5-6 | 24 | 54 | 22 |

Thinking about the situation in Syria, from what you have seen or heard about the conflict, do you think that chemical weapons have or have not been used by...

Troops loyal to the Assad government?

| | Have used | Have not used | Don't know |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 60 | 7 | 33 |

Rebels fighting against the Assad government?

| | Have used | Have not used | Don't know |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 28 | 26 | 45 |

When it comes to investigating the use of chemical weapons in Syria, how much do you trust the following to investigate claims that chemical weapons are being used in Syria?

The United States government

| | Trust | Do not trust | Don't know |
|-------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 29 | 56 | 16 |

The British government

| | Trust | Do not trust | Don't know |
|-------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 40 | 46 | 13 |

The Russian government

| | Trust | Do not trust | Don't know |
|-------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 5 | 77 | 17 |

The United Nations

| | Trust | Do not trust | Don't know |
|-------------|-------|--------------|------------|
| 2013 | | | |
| June 16-17 | 52 | 32 | 16 |

UN action against Syria has so far been vetoed by China and Russia.

Do you think Western countries should only take action against Syria with the approval of the UN, should take action against Syria regardless of whether the UN approve, or should not take action against Syria anyway?

| | Take action regardless of UN | Take action with backing of the UN | Should not take action | Don't know |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| 2012 | | | | |
| February 23-24 | 14 | 43 | 24 | 19 |

Thinking specifically about a no-fly zone over Syria, some people have suggested a no-fly zone should only go ahead with the support of the United Nations. Other people have suggested that the EU or NATO could impose a no-fly zone without UN approval.

Which of the following best reflects your view?

| | No-fly zone with approval of UN | No-fly zone with or without approval | A no-fly zone should not be imposed | None of these | Don't know |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 2012 | | | | | |
| February 6-7 | 48 | 21 | 8 | 6 | 18 |

Thinking about a no-fly zone over Syria, which of the following best reflects your views?

| | Necessary now | Not necessary but may be in the future | Not necessary or desirable | None of these | Don't know |
|--------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 2012 | | | | | |
| February 6-7 | 40 | 26 | 10 | 5 | 20 |