

# Is Turkey collaborating with the Islamic State (ISIS)?

David L. Phillips writes in [The Washington Post](#) on August 12, 2014: “Most of the fighters who joined us in the beginning of the war came via Turkey, and so did our equipment and supplies.”

- Kemal Kiliçdaroglu, head of the Republican People’s Party (CHP), [produced interview transcripts](#) from truck drivers who delivered weapons to the groups. According to [three trucks were stopped](#) in Adana for inspection on January 19, 2014. The trucks were loaded with weapons in Esenboga Airport in Ankara. The drivers drove the trucks to the border, where a MIT agent was supposed to take over and drive the trucks to Syria to deliver materials to ISIS and groups in Syria. This happened many times. When the trucks were stopped, MIT agents tried to keep the inspectors from looking inside the crates. The inspectors found rockets, arms, and ammunitions.
- Cumhuriyet [told](#) Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, Yasar Guler, a senior defense official, and Feridun Sinirlioglu, a senior foreign affairs official: “If need be, I’ll send 4 men into Syria. I’ll formulate a reason to go to war by shooting 8 rockets into Turkey; I’ll have them attack the Tomb of Suleiman Shah.”
- Documents [Radikal](#) on June 13, 2014, Interior Minister Muammar Guler signed a directive: “According to our regional gains, we will help al-Nusra militants against the branch of PKK terrorist organization, the PYD, within our borders...Hatay is a strategic location for the mujahideen crossing from within our borders to Syria. Logistical support for Islamist groups will be increased, and their training, hospital care, and safe passage will mostly take

place in Hatay...MIT and the Religious Affairs Directorate will coordinate the placement of fighters in public accommodations.”

- The Daily Mail [obtained](#) documents showing that the Turkish government has stamped passports of foreign militants seeking to cross the Turkey border into Syria to join ISIS.
- The BBC [indicated](#) on October 9, 2014 that Turkish intelligence is passing satellite imagery and other data to ISIS.

#### Turkey Provided Training to ISIS Fighters

- CNN Turk reported on July 29, 2014 that in the heart of Istanbul, places like Duzce and Adapazari, have become gathering spots for terrorists. There are religious orders where ISIS militants are trained. Some of these training videos are posted on the Turkish ISIS propaganda website takvahaber.net. According to [recorded](#) at a public gathering in Istanbul, which took place on July 28, 2014.
- A video [asking questions](#) such as, “Is it true that a camp or camps have been allocated to an affiliate of ISIS in Istanbul? What is this affiliate? Who is it made up of? Is the rumor true that the same area allocated for the camp is also used for military exercises?”
- Kemal Kiliçdaroglu [HERE](#) and [intelligence](#), Turkey trained ISIS militants for special operations.

#### Turkey Offers Medical Care to ISIS Fighters

- An ISIS commander [reported](#) on October 12, 2014 that Dengir Mir Mehmet Fırat, a founder of the AKP, said that Turkey supported terrorist groups and still supports them and treats them in hospitals. “In order to weaken the developments in Rojava (Syrian Kurdistan), the government

gave concessions and arms to extreme religious groups...the government was helping the wounded. The Minister of Health said something such as, it's a human obligation to care for the ISIS wounded."

- According to [reported](#) on the Obama administration's efforts to pressure Turkey to crack down on ISIS extensive sales network for oil. James Phillips, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation, argues that Turkey has not fully cracked down on ISIS's sales network because it benefits from a lower price for oil, and that there might even be Turks and government officials who benefit from the trade.
- Fehim Ta?tekin wrote in Radikal on September 13, 2014 about illegal pipelines transporting oil from Syria to nearby border towns in Turkey. The oil is sold for as little as 1.25 liras per liter. Ta?tekin [says](#) that there are Turkish individuals acting as middlemen to help sell ISIS's [accused](#) Turkey of allowing the transportation of arms to ISIS over its territory, as well as the sale of oil.

#### Turkey Assists ISIS Recruitment

- Kemal Kiliçdaro?lu [HERE](#) and [reports](#) that Takva Haber serves as a propaganda outlet for ISIS to recruit Turkish-speaking individuals in Turkey and Germany. The address where this propaganda website is registered corresponds to the address of a school called Irfan Koleji, which was established by Ilim Yayma Vakfi, a foundation that was created by Erdogan and Davutoglu, among others. It is thus claimed that the propaganda site is operated from the school of the foundation started by AKP members.
- Minister of Sports, Suat Kilic, an AKP member, visited Salafi jihadists who are ISIS supporters in Germany. The [released](#) a video allegedly showing ISIS militants riding a bus in Istanbul.

## Turkish Forces Are Fighting Alongside ISIS

- On October 7, 2014, IBDA-C, a militant Islamic organization in Turkey, pledged support to ISIS. A Turkish friend who is a commander in ISIS suggests that Turkey is “involved in all of this” and that “10,000 ISIS members will come to Turkey.” A Huda-Par member at the meeting claims that officials criticize ISIS but in fact sympathize with the group (Huda-Par, the “Free Cause Party”, is a Kurdish Sunni fundamentalist political party). BBP member claims that National Action Party (MHP) officials are close to embracing ISIS. In the meeting, it is asserted that ISIS militants come to Turkey frequently to rest, as though they are taking a break from military service. They claim that Turkey will experience an Islamic revolution, and Turks should be ready for jihad. (See [HERE](#).)

- Seymour Hersh maintains in the [claimed](#) that Turkish Special Forces fight with ISIS.

## Turkey Helped ISIS in Battle for Kobani

- Anwar Moslem, Mayor of Kobani, said on September 19, 2014: “Based on the intelligence we got two days before the breakout of the current war, trains full of forces and ammunition, which were passing by north of Kobane, had an-hour-and-ten-to-twenty-minute-long stops in these villages: Salib Qaran, Gire Sor, Moshrefat Ezzo. There are evidences, witnesses, and videos about this. Why is ISIS strong only in Kobane’s east? Why is it not strong either in its south or west? Since these trains stopped in villages located in the east of Kobane, we guess they had brought ammunition and additional force for the ISIS.” In the second article on September 30, 2014, a CHP delegation visited Kobani, where locals claimed that everything from the clothes ISIS militants wear to their guns comes from Turkey. (See [HERE](#).)

- Released by Nuhaber, [claims](#) that 120 militants crossed

into Syria from Turkey between October 20th and 24th, 2014.

- According to an op-ed [reported](#), “ISIS fighters crossed the border from Turkey into Syria, over the Turkish train tracks that delineate the border, in full view of Turkish soldiers. They were met there by PYD fighters and stopped.”
- A Kurdish commander in Kobani [turned away](#) by Turkish police at the Turkey-Syrian border.
- OdaTV [reports](#) on Vice President Joe Biden’s remarks detailing Turkish support to ISIS.
- [maintained](#) that MIT helped “midwife” the Islamic state in Iraq and Syria, as well as other Jihadi groups.
- An AKP council member [uses](#) the ISIS logo in internal correspondences.
- Bilal Erdogan and Turkish officials