

# Russian rescue helicopter 'shot down by Syrian rebels' while searching for pilots of plane downed by Turkey

First, the Turkomen on the ground [The Mirror](#):

A Russian rescue helicopter has been shot down by Syrian rebels while searching for pilots missing after Turkey downed a Russian jet.

The helicopter was forced to make an emergency landing in a government-held area in Syria's Latakia province.

**A Syrian insurgent group, which uses U.S. Tow missiles, said its fighters hit the helicopter with an anti-tank missile.**

Video footage has emerged online appearing to show the helicopter after it crashed in dense woodland.

Plumes of smoke can be seen coming from the aircraft.

Vladimir Putin earlier warned Turkey of "significant consequences" after the Russian plane was shot down.

The Russian President also said the action by Turkey was a "stab in the back" and said it would have serious consequences for his country's relations with Turkey.

Turkey claimed it shot down the fighter jet because it violated its airspace.

However, Putin said the jet was shot down in Syria, 4km from the Turkish border.

He told a media conference: "This event is beyond the

normal framework of fighting against terrorism.

"Of course our military is doing heroic work against terrorism... But the loss today is a stab in the back, carried out by the accomplices of terrorists.

"...Our aircraft was downed over the territory of Syria, using air-to-air missile from a Turkish F-16."