

Syria, ISIS, and Emigration

A Civil War, A Cold War, and A Holy War

Situation in Syria

- European's established borders connecting rival groups
- Civil War
 - Participated in the Arab Spring, but it was not quick or effective like in Tunisia and Egypt
 - Lack of rebel unity, weaponry, and resolve
 - Rebels have harmed civilian population just as much as government
- Cold War
 - Government is getting help from Iran and China (Russia???)
 - Rebels are getting help from ??? (many places, just not “officially”)
 - USA and Russia as of late are using “non boots on the ground strategies”
 - Saudi Arabia is funding rebel groups
- Holy War
 - Sunnis vs. Shiites

ISIS in Syria

- Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
 - Came from Al Qaeda, but much more extreme and not support by Al- Qaeda
- Want to spread Sharia Law across the world
 - Islamic law based on a very strict interpretation of the Koran
 - Comprised of Sunni Muslims
 - Sunnis and Shiites are the two main sects of Islam
- Not all Sunnis support the ISIS vision
 - Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey are all Sunni, but they do not want this type of country in the region

Syria's Migrant Status

- Internally displaced people
 - Many only have the means to move internally to avoid the growing conflict
- Civilian emigration
 - Some have moved to neighboring countries
 - Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey
 - Some have tried to move to Europe/ USA
 - Many have been met with resistance
 - Immigrants have had a rough go of it “new” countries
 - Recently European countries have protested and established new laws to keep them out