

Do Now on the Paris Attacks

Bob Kelly mr.bob.kelly.55@gmail.com

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What is ISIS?

Background Briefing: What is ISIL?



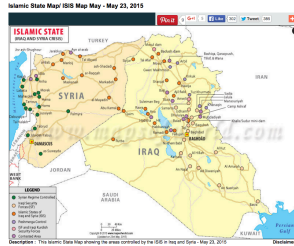
BY COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS June 24, 2014 at 12:05 PM EST



By [Zachary Laub](#), Associate Writer, and [Jonathan Masters](#), Deputy Editor at the Council on Foreign Relations
Updated June 24

1. How successful has ISIS been in Iraq and Syria?
2. How was ISIS connected to Al Qaeda?
3. Why did ISIS split with Al Qaeda?
4. Who was Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and what was his four pronged strategy (check the "took aim at U.S. forces pdf")?
5. How and why has ISIS grown in Iraq and Syria?
6. How does ISIS get money and how does that affect its fighters?
7. Why have some Iraqi Sunni Muslims supported ISIS?
8. What is U.S. policy in regard to the Islamic State?

ISIS Map



Everything we know about the Paris attacks

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PARIS ATTACKS

Everything we know about the multiple attacks in Paris

BY LARISA EPATKO November 14, 2015 at 7:40 AM EST | Updated: Nov 15, 2015 at 8:00 AM

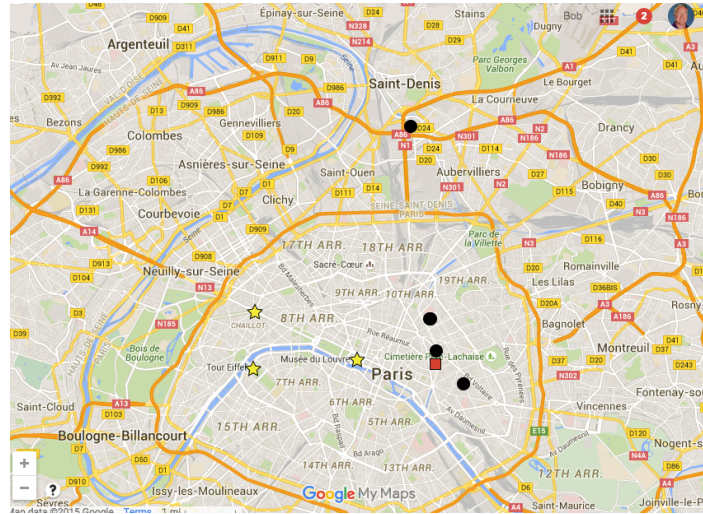
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As France observed three days of national mourning, members of the public continued to pay tribute to the victims of Friday's deadly attacks. Photo by Jeff J. Mitchell/Getty Images

1. What were the targets?
2. Who were the attackers?
3. How did the French president and the French people react?
4. How did President Obama respond?

Map of Paris Attacks



What motivated the Paris attacks



1. According to Peter Neumann, what were the three aims of the Paris attackers?
2. Why is Neumann afraid to hasten the fight against ISIS?
3. Beside killing people, what is terrorism about and how could these attacks be a part of that?

How the Paris attacks may affect the US-led air war on ISIS



1. Why does Anthony Cordesman say the United States should be “very, very careful” in its response to the attacks?
2. Why does he say that the attacks are not a gamechanger?
3. How has the air war and ground war by the Kurds in Iraq been affecting ISIS?
4. How could such attacks help ISIS?
5. Why can't the coalition suddenly stop all attacks by ISIS by stepping up the war in Iraq and Syria?

Syria's war: Who is fighting and why



1. Why did Syrian President Assad encourage extremists to get involved against his own government?
2. How did Iran, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Turkey side in the Syrian Civil War?
3. Who is Hezbollah and who do they side with?
4. How did the US side in the war and how did they try to do it?
5. How did the US eventually get involved in the war?
6. How did ISIS get involved and who did they fight?
7. Why did the US seem confused in its involvement in Syria and Iraq?
8. How and why did Russia get involved?