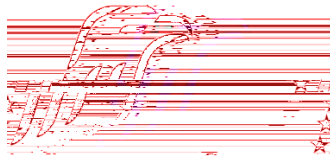


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**Weekly Conflict Summary**  
April 12-18, 2018

A trilateral force including the US, UK, and France launched strikes against three military targets connected to the alleged chemical weapons attack in Duma the week before. These strikes do not appear to have led to any casualties despite the large volume of rockets launched. Experts and aid workers have been barred from entering Duma in the aftermath of a reported chemical weapons attack, largely due to Russian military police not allowing entry and pro-government militias creating an insecure environment for those entering the area. An impending pro-government offensive for Yarmouk Camp has not yet begun despite continuing troop deployment and media activity indicating an assault is imminent.



Figure 1 - Areas of control in Syria by April 18

### **Missile Strikes**

After deliberations between officials of the US, UK, and France, strikes were carried out against Syrian military targets related to the alleged chemical attack on April 7. These strikes hit three military targets late at night between April 13 and 14, and have





Figure 4 - Situation around Damascus by April 18

### **Eastern Qalamoun**

As operations in Eastern Ghouta have wound down, government forces have been increasingly vocal about their intention to capture opposition-held territory to the northeast of Damascus in the region known as Eastern Qalamoun. Negotiations between opposition, Russian, and government representatives regarding the status of this area have been ongoing for weeks, but recently collapsed. Syrian government forces have already re-deployed to the area from Eastern Ghouta.