

International Flight Information Manual - Syria

Syrian opposition members of the Free Syrian Army (FSA) have given a 72-hour advance warning to airlines to suspend flights to Syria before they try to seize civilian airports in Damascus and Aleppo. The 72-hour period began on 1 September 2012. The FSA claims the Syrian Air Force is using the civilian airports to support Syrian government military operations against their forces. Prior to the FSA's warning, some international air carriers elected to cancel flights to Syria over security concerns. To date, civil aircraft have not been directly engaged in the conflict, but the Syrian opposition elements have fired-on and downed Syrian military aircraft, and have shelled military air bases.

U.S. operators planning operations into or over Syria are advised to take great care in obtaining current threat information and comply with all applicable FAA regulations and operations specifications, or letters of authorization as appropriate. Additionally, U.S. operators are encouraged to report security incidents to the FAA. Information may be passed to the FAA Watch at 202-493-5833 or 202-267-3333.