

## **Schnellrecherche der SFH-Länderanalyse vom 14. April 2015 zu Syrien: Rekrutierung von Minderjährigen durch die PYD**

Frage an die SFH-Länderanalyse:

- Werden Minderjährige von der PYD rekrutiert?

Die Informationen beruhen auf einer zeitlich begrenzten Recherche (Schnellrecherche) in öffentlich zugänglichen Dokumenten, die uns derzeit zur Verfügung stehen.

### **1 Rekrutierung von Minderjährigen durch die PYD**

Die Rekrutierung von Minderjährigen durch die PYD (Partei der Demokratischen Union) und deren bewaffneter Arm YPG (Volksverteidigungseinheiten) ist von verschiedenen internationalen Organisationen (*Human Rights Watch*, *UN Human Rights Council*) sowie von mehreren Nachrichtenagenturen in den letzten Jahren dokumentiert worden. Die unabhängige Untersuchungskommission zu Syrien des *UN Human Rights Council* berichtete am 12. Februar 2014 von minderjährigen YPG-Kämpfern in Qamishli (Al-Hasakah) und in Ayn Al-Arab (Ar Raqqa), die im Juli und August 2013 gesichtet wurden. Nach Kritik der Kommission, adressierte die YPG der Kommission am 30. September 2013 ein Schreiben, in dem sie an ihrer Politik, Kinder nicht für Kriegszwecke zu brauchen, festhalte. Im Dezember 2013 wurden innerhalb der YPG Befehle dazu erlassen. Diese Guidelines wurden jedoch nicht eingehalten und die unabhängige internationale Untersuchungskommission für Syrien des *UN Human Rights Council* berichtete am 18. März 2014 erneut von bewaffneten Jungen und Mädchen zwischen 14 und 17 Jahre, die sich an Checkpoints der YPG in Qamishli, und Al Malikiyah in Al Hasakah und in Afrin, Aleppo aufhalten. Nach weiterer Kritik von *Human Rights Watch* und dem *Human Rights Council* wurden 149 Kindersoldaten von der PYD im Juli 2014 entlassen. Obwohl die PYD und der YPG im Juni/Juli 2014 sich wiederholt verpflichteten keine Minderjährigen zu rekrutieren und minderjährige Soldaten zu entlassen, werden laut neusten Berichten verschiedener Nachrichtenagenturen Minderjährige weiterhin rekrutiert. Laut lokalen Aktivisten, welche in einem Artikel der libanesischen Zeitung *Dailystar* am 30. Januar 2015 zitiert werden, nimmt die Zahl an Zwangsrekrutierungen, manchmal auch von minderjährigen Mädchen, in Afrin (westlich von Qamishli) zu. Vor allem im Kanton Jazeera mit Hauptstadt Qamishli ist dieses Phänomen weit verbreitet. *KurdWatch* berichtet von der Neuntklässlerin, Abdulhamid Husan, die am 23. Dezember 2014 von der PYD und der YPG ohne die Erlaubnis der Eltern vor ihrem Haus mitgenommen und zwangsrekrutiert wurde. Die Rekrutierungen von Minderjährigen in der PYD stossen in der kurdischen Zivilgesellschaft auf Empörung. *Dailystar* berichtete am 30. Januar 2015 von Demonstrationen, welche von den Einwohnern der Stadt Amouda in der Nähe von Qamishli gegen die PYD regelmässig organisiert werden. Dabei fordern sie die Freilassung von jungen Mädchen, die rekrutiert wurden. Laut *KurdWatch* publizierten 125 kurdische Politiker, Autoren und Aktivisten am 8. Januar 2015 ein Schreiben im Internet, in welchem sie die Rekrutierung von Minderjährigen durch die PYD verurteilten. Die meisten der Unterzeichnenden leben in der Diaspora.

Weyermannsstrasse 10  
Postfach 8154  
CH-3001 Bern

T++41 31 370 75 75  
F++41 31 370 75 00

info@fluechtlingshilfe.ch  
www.fluechtlingshilfe.ch

Spendenkonto  
PC 30-1085-7



UN Human Rights Council, 12. Februar 2014:

**«81. Underage YPG fighters were seen in Qamishli (Al-Hasakah) and in Ayn Al-Arab (Ar Raqqah) in July and August 2013. In a letter dated 30 September 2013 addressed to the commission, the YPG stated its policy not to use children under 18. An order issued on 14 December from its central command to YPG commanders echoed these guidelines. Adherence to this policy continues to be monitored. (...)**

**84. Non-State armed groups have perpetrated the war crime of enlisting and using children below the age of 15 to participate actively in hostilities, and have recruited and used children under the age of 18 years in hostilities contrary to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. They also committed the war crime of torture on children. Children's right to education has been denied by the use of schools as military bases and training camps.»** Quelle: UN Human Rights Council, Report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, 12. Februar 2014, S. 13-14:

[www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session25/Documents/A-HRC-25-65\\_en.doc](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session25/Documents/A-HRC-25-65_en.doc).

UN Human Rights Council, 18. März 2014:

**«37. Despite orders issued to YPG commanders in December 2013 not to recruit children below the age of 18 years, the presence of armed boys and girls aged 14 to 17 years, was documented at YPG checkpoints in Qamishli and Al Malikiyah in Al Hasakah as well as in Afrin, Aleppo.»** Quelle: UN Human Rights Council, Oral Update of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, 18. März 2014:

[www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/CoISyria/OralUpdate18March2014.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/CoISyria/OralUpdate18March2014.pdf).

Human Rights Watch, 19. Juni 2014:

**«Human Rights Watch found that, despite promises from the Asayish and YPG in 2013 to stop using children under age 18 for military purposes, the problem persists in both forces. On June 5, the YPG publicly pledged to demobilize all fighters under age 18 within one month.»** Quelle: Human Rights Watch, Under Kurdish Rule: Abuses in PYD-run Enclaves of Syria, 19. Juni 2014:

[www.refworld.org/docid/53a983fd4.html](http://www.refworld.org/docid/53a983fd4.html).

Un Human Rights Council, 13. August 2014:

**«(c) Kurdish armed groups**

**97. Instances of recruitment of children under the age of 18 by YPG were documented in document A/HRC/25/65. Pursuant to their pledge on 5 July to abolish such practices, YPG have demobilized child soldiers from their ranks and undertaken to monitor adherence to their commitments.»** Quelle: UN Human Rights Council, Report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, 13. August 2014, A/HRC/27/60:

[www.refworld.org/docid/53fed8134.html](http://www.refworld.org/docid/53fed8134.html).

Amnesty International, 25. Februar 2015:

*«In northern Syria, the Democratic Union Party (PYD) largely controlled three predominantly Kurdish enclaves – Afrin, Kobani (also known as Ayn al-Arab) and Jazeera – following the withdrawal of government troops in 2012, until IS forces again attacked Kobani mid-year, causing massive forced displacement. In January, the PYD issued a new constitution for the three areas, where it had established a functioning justice system based on so-called Peoples' Courts. **After visiting the area in February, Human Rights Watch urged the PYD authorities to stop arbitrary detentions, cease the use of children as soldiers and to man checkpoints, improve safeguards against detainee abuse, and investigate a spate of abductions and apparent political killings. In July, the PYD demobilized 149 children from their armed ranks and committed to preventing children from taking part in hostilities.**»* Quelle: Amnesty International, Amnesty International Report 2014/15 – The State of the World's Human Rights – Syria, 25. Februar 2015:  
[www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/syria/report-syria/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/syria/report-syria/).

Danish Immigration Service, 26. Februar 2015:

*«Abdelaziz Abdelaziz (OHCHR) stated that Kurdish officials have informed OHCHR that they have released 149 children serving with the PYD in Afrin and al-Hasakah,. However, children are reportedly still fighting alongside the PYD in Kobane, according to Abdelaziz Abdelaziz (OHCHR).»* Quelle: Danish Immigration Service, Syria: Military Service, Mandatory Self-Defence Duty and Recruitment to the YPG, 26. Februar 2015:  
[www.nyidanmark.dk/NR/rdonlyres/991BA1A7-84C6-42A2-BC16-23CE6B5D862C/0/Syriennotat26feb2015.pdf](http://www.nyidanmark.dk/NR/rdonlyres/991BA1A7-84C6-42A2-BC16-23CE6B5D862C/0/Syriennotat26feb2015.pdf).

Daily Star, 30. Januar 2015:

*«BEIRUT: Noura Hussein Hussein, an 18-year-old Syrian Kurd from the northwest town of Afrin, had just left the hairdresser's salon on her wedding day earlier this month but never made it home, according to her family. Hussein was detained by the Kurdish PYD, the political party that dominates the three Kurdish cantons in the north of the country, and was promptly conscripted into the YPG, the group's militia. Her family has demanded the girl's release, and local activist groups say several other cases of forced conscription, sometimes of female minors, is on the rise in Afrin – it's much more widespread in the easternmost canton, whose capital is the town of Qamishli. Residents of the town of Amouda, in the Qamishli canton, have held periodic demonstrations against the PYD to demand the release of recently detained teenage girls and an end to the policy of conscription.»* Quelle: The Daily Star, Lebanon, Mobilization efforts on the rise in Syria's war of attrition, 30. Januar 2015:  
[www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2015/Jan-30/285810-mobilization-efforts-on-the-rise-in-syrias-war-of-attrition.ashx](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2015/Jan-30/285810-mobilization-efforts-on-the-rise-in-syrias-war-of-attrition.ashx).

KurdWatch, 8. Januar 2015:

*«Syrian-Kurdistan: Declaration against the PYD's recruitment of minors*

*KURDWATCH, January 16, 2015—On January 8, 2015, 125 Kurdish politicians, writers, and activists published a declaration on the internet condemning the Democratic Union Party's (PYD) practice of recruiting minors. They blame the PYD for the massive exodus of young people from Syria's Kurdish regions. The majority of the signatories live abroad.»* Quelle: KurdWatch, Syrian-Kurdistan: Declaration against the PYD's recruitment of minors: 8. Januar 2015: [www.kurdwatch.org/?aid=3325&z=en&cure=1029](http://www.kurdwatch.org/?aid=3325&z=en&cure=1029).

*KurdWatch, 31. Dezember 2014:*

*«Amudah: Another minor recruited by PYD against parents' will  
KURDWATCH, December 31, 2014—On December 23, 2014, fighters for the Democratic Union Party's (PYD) People's Defense Units (YPG) recruited ninth-grader Hamrin 'Abdulhamid Husayn (known by the family name 'Idi) without seeking her parents' consent. The girl was picked up in front of her parental home in 'Amudah. In a press release, her brother Marwan 'Idi stated: »I went to the Democratic Union Party's Women's Defense Units and Asayiş. Both claimed that Hamrin was not with them. However, Hamrin had contacted a friend by phone and had told her she and a group of girls were on their way to a military training ground in the Qandil mountains.«* On December 24, 2014, about ten family members of Hamrin's organized a rally in 'Amudah and demanded that the PYD let their daughter return home.» Quelle: KurdWatch, Amudah: Another minor recruited by PYD against parents' will, 31. Dezember 2014: <http://kurdwatch.org/index.php?cid=1016&z=en>.