GOVERNMENT

Chief of State
President Bashar al-ASAD

Head of Government
Prime Minister Imad Muhammad Prime Minister Hussein ARNOUS

Government Type
presidential republic; highly authoritarian regime

Capital
Damascus

Legislature
unicameral People's Assembly (250 seats)

Judiciary
Court of Cassation (organized into civil, criminal, religious, and military divisions, each with 3 judges); Supreme Constitutional Court (consists of 7 members)

Ambassador to US
(vacant)

US Ambassador
(vacant); note – Czechia serves as a protecting power for US interests in Syria

ECONOMY

Economic Overview
Syria's economy has deeply deteriorated amid the ongoing conflict that began in 2011, declining by more than 70% from 2010 to 2017.

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$50.28 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$2,900 (2017 est.)

Exports
$1.85 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Lebanon 31.5%, Iraq 10.3%, Jordan 8.8%, China 7.8%, Turkey 7.5%, Spain 7.3% (2017)

Imports
$6.279 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Russia 32.4%, Turkey 16.7%, China 9.5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population
19,398,448 (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth
4.25% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity
Arab ~50%, Alawite ~15%, Kurd ~10%, Levantine ~10%, other ~15% (includes Druze, Ismaili, Imami, Nusairi, Assyrian, Turkoman, Armenian)

Language
Arabic (official), Kurdish, Armenian, Aramaic, Circassian, French, English

Religion
Muslim 87% (official; includes Sunni 74% and Alawi, Ismaili, and Shia 13%), Christian 10% (includes Orthodox, Uniate, and Nestorian), Druze 3%, Jewish (few remaining in Damascus and Aleppo)

Urbanization
urban population: 55.5% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 1.43% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy
86.4% (2015)

as of September 2020