# CURRENT UNITED STATES COUNTERTERROR WAR LOCATIONS

NUMBER OF **76** TOTAL AFFECTED COUNTRIES ENGAGED THROUGH ...



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

ARGENTINA

 $(\oplus)$ 

BRAZIL

(f)

LEGEND

**US Military Activity** 

US Military Base(s)

and/or Lily Pad(s)

Counterterrorism

**Combat Troops** 

Air & Drone Strikes

Training in

C



Combat troops



**US Military bases** 



THE US COUNTER-TERROR WAR INVOLVES 39% OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES



#### DEFINITIONS

- US Military Activity includes one or more of the following:
- US Military Bases: Country hosts one or more US military bases, lily pads, or contingency locations used in counterterror activity.
- Training in Counterterrorism: The US military gives training and/or assistance to this country's security forces to combat terrorism.
- Combat Troops: Country hosts US service members who take direct action on the ground against terrorism, either in this country or in a neighboring country.
- Air & Drone Strikes: The US operates direct air and drone strikes in this country.
- \* Current: US military activity documented between 2015 October 2017

Compiled by the Costs ġ, Wai Proj

## COSTS OF WAR

### Data Sources and Categories:

Information about US military counterterror activity is not published in one place or collected for the public by the US Government. Online sources such as the US State Department's Country Reports on Terrorism are not entirely transparent or comprehensive. This map is based on country data assembled from government websites, reputable news sources, and expert input. This information was crosschecked with the most recent State Department publications.

The map only covers counterterror activity conducted between 2015 and October 2017. This means that it does not cover all past counterterror actions, such as, for example, US military training of security forces in Burundi, Gabon, Ghana, and Liberia, which was documented in the past but not since 2015. The map does not include the many additional countries where the US military is engaged towards goals other than counterterrorism, such as counternarcotics operations in Central and South America or humanitarian aid during the Ebola epidemic in Liberia. Furthermore, the map focuses on the post-9/11 landscape of US military counterterror activity, excluding the combat against such groups as the FARC in Colombia, which the US government has reclassified as "terrorists" since 9/11 but which have a long prior history.

The category of "training and/or assistance in counterterrorism" includes only those instances in which the US military actively assists and/or trains other countries' security forces in combatting terrorism. The map does not include what the State Department calls, vaguely, "cooperation" or "interagency coordination" with other countries in counterterrorism activities, or even cases in which the US military has consulted countries or regions on the development of counterterrorism plans. In some cases, US training or assistance is significant, as in for example sending thousands of combat troops to conduct exercises with a country's security forces, and in other cases it is as minor as providing a computerized network for border patrol. Key to a country's inclusion in this map is that the US military claims it is acting to enhance that country's ability to combat terrorism.

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**Key sources include:** The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, the US Department of Defense's "Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal Approved Areas of Eligibility," the US Department of State's "Country Reports on Terrorism," US embassy websites, David Vine (Associate Professor at American University and expert on US military bases), and mainstream media sources such as the Military Times, National Public Radio, the New York Times, and Reuters.

Acknowledgements: Stephanie Savell, curator, Maria Ji, designer. Thanks to Andrew Bacevich, Nora Ellmann, Rachel McMahon, and David Vine for their invaluable assistance.

