

THE CONSEQUENCES OF ON- GOING CONFLICT IN SYRIA ON QUALITY OF LIFE AND HEALTH, AND THE ROLE OF NGOs.

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The 13-year ongoing Syrian conflict has caused one of the worst humanitarian crises in recent years. Syria's pre-conflict population was 22 million, and as of July 2021, there are approximately 5.4 million people who fled the country as refugees/asylees, and approximately 6.9 million people who were internally displaced. The violence that took place inevitably caused the fall of the healthcare system, leaving millions of Syrians without proper access to healthcare. The conflict also created a movement of humanitarian aid from all over the world, although limited research has been conducted on the role that this humanitarian aid is playing in Syria's and its population's recovery. The goal of this study was to assess the effects of the war on people's health and healthcare access, evaluate the most significant needs of the Syrian population post-conflict, and determine the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in providing aid. To do so, we carried out an epidemiologic case series. We surveyed people who have received prosthetic devices from Rise Again, a non-profit organization that provides prostheses for people who have lost their limbs during the Syrian war. The goal of the survey was to gauge the impact that Rise Again has had on its prosthetic recipients. Results showed that despite the aid that Syria has received during the most active years of the war, there is a lack of sustainable aid, preventing Syria and its people from fully recovering from the devastating 13-year-old conflict.