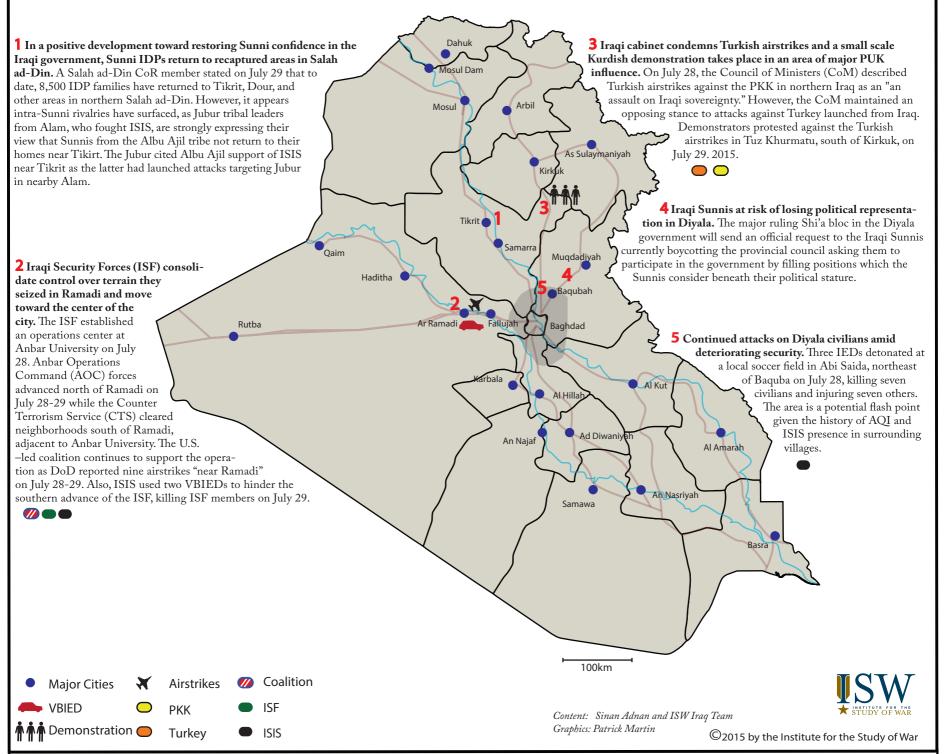
## Iraq Situation Report: July 28-30, 2015



The Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), supported by U.S.-led Coalition airpower, have continued to report advances north and south of Ramadi while simultaneously repelling ISIS's attacks east of the city. ISIS has continued to employ a mobile defense and has deployed SVBIEDs against the ISF south and east of Ramadi, although these attacks have so far failed to reverse the ISF's momentum. As the Iraqi government and ISF remained focused on Anbar, however, attacks by ISIS on civilians continued in Diyala. The Diyala provincial government is also facing a boycott by the Sunni Iraqiyat Diyala bloc, which is protesting the Badr Organization's control of the governorship. The Sunni deputy governor was recently reinstated, however, a move that could provide an opening to greater Sunni participation in the provincial government. Sunni figures in the Diyala government likely remain wary of Badr intentions in the province. Sunni-Shi'a competition is not the only dynamic that threatens stability in areas recaptured from ISIS. Intra-Sunni and inter-tribal tensions are currently running high in areas recaptured from ISIS, where Sunni communities were divided in terms of whether they resisted or cooperated with ISIS. Near Tikrit, re-captured by the ISF from ISIS, the Jubiris of Alam who resisted ISIS are attempting to prevent the return of other Sunnis from the Albu Ajil tribe to their homes on accusations of collaboration with ISIS. Their competition may also reflect emerging power struggles within Salah ad-Din Province. Meanwhile, there has been an unconfirmed report of the visit of an Iranian security delegation, led by Assistant Secretary General of the Iranian National Security Council Ahmad Amrir, to Iraqi Kurdistan to meet with Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), and Gorran (Change) leaders. Such a visit would likely indicate Iranian mediation of the intra-Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) struggle over a proposed transition from a presidential to a parliamentary system. Iran may also be