

# BACKGROUND OF THE WAR ON YEMEN

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- The war in Yemen began in September 2014, when the rebel movement, Ansar Allah - known as the Houthis - captured the capital Sana'a, driving out the internationally recognised government of President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi.
- On 26 March 2015, a coalition of states led by Saudi Arabia entered the war on the side of the government, launching a devastating bombing campaign. The war has devolved into a deadly stalemate, with multiple forces controlling different parts of the country.
- The war in Yemen has been raging for almost 8 years and has led to an estimated 377,000 deaths through direct and indirect causes, according to the UN.
- Saudi-led coalition air strikes have killed 8,983 civilians in attacks targeting residential areas, schools, hospitals, civilian gatherings, infrastructure, and other civilian targets.
- **The UK has supplied over £23 billion worth of arms since the war began and is one of Saudi Arabia's leading arms suppliers, in spite of overwhelming evidence of repeated breaches of international humanitarian law by the Coalition.**
- The war has created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with 5 million people on the brink of famine. Saudi and Houthi actions have played a central role in causing this crisis, and both have been accused of using starvation as a tool of war.
- There has been virtually no accountability for war crimes committed by all parties to the war.



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