

Sudan's Fractured Fighters

by [Areig Elhag \(/experts/areig-elhag\)](/experts/areig-elhag)

September 2026

Also published in National Interest

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Areig Elhag \(/experts/areig-elhag\)](/experts/areig-elhag)

Areig Elhag is the Arabic Content Editor at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. She has more than 15 years of experience in journalism and political analysis.



Articles & Testimony

The conditions that created the war will likely recur if Sudan's military stays fragmented between so many semi-autonomous armed groups.

Nearly three years into the Sudanese Civil War, US diplomacy remains focused on an immediate and necessary objective: securing a humanitarian truce, stopping the fighting, and getting aid to civilians. But a ceasefire, urgent as it is, will not resolve one of the problems that helped bring Sudan to this point. Even if Washington and the international community secure an agreement between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, they will still face a difficult question: What happens to the other armed forces that have grown stronger during the war? Sudan could emerge from this conflict not with two competing armies, but with five or six significant armed forces, each with its own commanders, weapons, political relationships, and areas of influence...

[Read this article on the National Interest website. \(https://nationalinterest.org/feature/sudans-fractured-fighters\)](https://nationalinterest.org/feature/sudans-fractured-fighters) ❖

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Iraq’s Islamic State Trials: The U.S. Role

Sep 14, 2026

◆
Devorah Margolin

(/policy-analysis/iraqs-islamic-state-trials-us-role)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

Iran’s Second Front

Sep 11, 2026

◆
April Longley Alley,
Allison Minor

(/policy-analysis/irans-second-front)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

Getting Iran Policy Back on Track

Summer 2026

◆
Michael Singh

(/policy-analysis/getting-iran-policy-back-track)

TOPICS

Arab & Islamic Politics (/policy-analysis/arab-islamic-politics)

Military & Security (/policy-analysis/military-security)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

North Africa (/policy-analysis/north-africa)

