

We Already Gave Syria to Putin, So What's Left for Trump to Say?

by [Dennis Ross \(/experts/dennis-ross\)](#)

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Given Moscow's repeatedly broken promises, the president should make clear that the United States will stay in Syria to continue fighting the Islamic State—and to back Israel against Iran if necessary.

Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result may not meet the clinical definition of insanity, but it's still a pretty good standard. It also happens to define both President Barack Obama's and President Trump's approaches to working with Russia on the Syrian civil war. Washington and Moscow have repeatedly issued joint statements outlining principles for addressing the conflict and reducing its horrific humanitarian consequences. Yet over and over again, the Russians have betrayed their commitments. Consider the record...

[Read the full article on the Washington Post website. \(https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/both-obama-and-trump-let-putin-have-his-way-in-syria-now-what/2018/07/05/b333c656-807d-11e8-b660-4d0f9f0351f1_story.html\)](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/both-obama-and-trump-let-putin-have-his-way-in-syria-now-what/2018/07/05/b333c656-807d-11e8-b660-4d0f9f0351f1_story.html) ❖

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