



Iraq – Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 7 February 2017

Any information to indicate that ISIS have carried out attacks in the KRI against state agencies since 2014.

An article from the Los Angeles Times states:

“A suicide car bombing stunned the normally secure northern Iraqi city of Irbil, capital of the semiautonomous Kurdish region, while Kurdish and Iraqi government forces mounted a new offensive against Islamic State militants. The explosion, which struck at midday Wednesday, killed five people in addition to the attacker and wounded dozens near the heavily guarded Kurdish government compound in central Irbil, a city that has been largely insulated from the war against extremists raging nearby.” (Los Angeles Times (19 November 2014) *Suicide bomber kills 5 in usually secure Irbil, Iraqi Kurdish capital*)

This article also states:

“The governor, who was reportedly in his office when the car bomb detonated outside, blamed Islamic State for the attack. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bomb, which detonated outside blast walls protecting the governor’s compound in the center of Irbil, not far from the historic citadel. Authorities said the suicide attacker was attempting to enter the compound when the bomb went off. Four of the dead were police officers and the fifth was a civilian, reported Rudaw, which also said 29 were injured in the blast.” (ibid)

A report from the Jamestown Foundation states:

“On November 19, the Islamic State organization dramatically raised the stakes in the group’s ongoing conflict with Iraqi and Syrian Kurds by carrying out a suicide car bomb attack on a local government building in Erbil, the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan. Although the bomber failed to breach the building’s perimeter, the attack killed at least six and injured 29.” (Jamestown Foundation (21 November 2014) *Islamic State Suicide Bomb Attack in Erbil Raises Stakes in Kurdistan*)

A report from the Xinhua General News Service states:

“Kurdish security forces arrested a terrorist group which planned attacks on offices of Kurdish party in the semi-autonomous region of Kurdistan, and was responsible for the deadly suicide attacks in Arbil and Kirkuk, a security official said on Saturday. “We have captured the terrorist group which carried out the suicide attack on the provincial government compound in Arbil last month, and the suicide attack that targeted a coffee shop in the city of Kirkuk,” Tariq Nouri, head of Arbils provincial security service, told reporters at a press

conference in the provincial capital city of Erbil, some 350 km north of Baghdad. The arrested group is affiliated to the Islamic State (IS) militant group and planned to carry out attacks in the city of Sulaimaniyah, some 375 km northeast of Baghdad, against the offices of the two main Kurdish parties of Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), which the Iraqi President Fuad Masoum is a leading figure in its leadership, and Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), led by the regional President Masoud Barzani, Nouri said.” (Xinhua General News Service (13 December 2014) *Kurdish forces capture terrorist group responsible for suicide attacks*)

A report from Reuters states:

“A car bombing claimed by the Islamic State killed three people on Friday outside the U.S. consulate in Erbil, in a relatively rare attack in the capital of Iraq's Kurdistan region. No U.S. personnel were hurt in the blast, according to the U.S. State Department, which said a ‘vehicle-borne improvised explosive device’ exploded right outside the entrance to the heavily fortified compound.” (Reuters (18 April 2015) *Car bomb kills three outside U.S. consulate in Iraq's Kurdish capital*)

A report from Al Jazeera states:

“A car bomb at the entrance to the US consulate in the capital of Iraq's Kurdistan region, Erbil, has killed at least three people and wounded eight others. ‘A car bomb exploded outside the entrance to the US consulate,’ Nihad Qoja, the mayor of Erbil's city centre, told Reuters news agency on Friday. ‘It seems the consulate was the target.’ Qoja added. The State Department said no US personnel were killed in the blast that it said was caused by a ‘vehicle-borne improvised explosive device’ that went off right outside the entrance to the heavily guarded compound. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levante (ISIL) group claimed responsibility for the car bomb, the group's monitoring group SITE said on Friday.” (Al Jazeera (18 April 2015) *Deadly blast hits US consulate in Erbil*)

A report from the Russian international news agency RIA Novosti states:

“An Islamic State (IS) suicide bomber blew up a check point of the Kurdish Peshmerga forces near the town of Suleiman Bek in the Iraqi Kurdistan, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) reported Tuesday. ‘The suicide bomber detonated an explosive device near the check point. There are reports of killed and injured people,’ the union's media center said.” (RIA Novosti (31 May 2016) *IS Suicide Bomber Blows Peshmerga Check Point in Iraqi Kurdistan - Kurdish Party*)

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research and Information Unit within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

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