



Home Office

## **Home Office Response to IAGCI Review**

**Iraq: Security situation in Baghdad, southern governorates and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), April 2015**

**November 2015**

Review Conclusions/ Recommendations		Response	Home Office Comments
1.	<b>Summary</b>		
2.	Paras 5-8. To have standardise style / format, remove minor stylistic and typographical mistakes, standardise place and other names; and update COI in next iteration of the CIG	Accepted	<p>We have a house style which has been inconsistently applied in this CIG – we'll correct in the next update.</p> <p>We try to use the same term or names consistently – we'll endeavour to do so in future. However sources vary in their usage and where we quote we maintain the version used by the source.</p> <p>Thank you for the updated material.</p>
3.	<b>Preface</b>		
4.	Page 2, 'Feedback': 'Our goal is to continuously improve the guidance...' The split infinitive should be corrected. <b>Should be:</b> 'Our goal is continuously to improve the guidance...'	Accepted	We will gradually change the preface as we issue new/updated CIGs.
5.	<b>Guidance</b>		

6.			<p>Thank you for the observations and comments on the guidance section. However, the CIG has just updated to reflect the caselaw of AA, with almost all the original text, as commented on below, replaced.</p> <p>As a result most of the comments on the guidance section have not implemented since the text has substantively changed.</p> <p>In addition, see the Home Office's covering note for its general view on comments regarding the policy/guidance section.</p>
7.	'Is the person's account a credible one?'. This is stylistically clumsy. <b>Should be:</b> 'Is the person's account credible?'	Accepted	This is based on an old template. We have since changed the wording.
8.	Page 4, 1.2: 'Are those at risk able to internally relocate?' The split infinitive should be corrected. <b>Should be:</b> 'Are those at risk able to relocate internally?'.	Not accepted	Internal relocation is a commonly understood term and concept in refugee status determinations.
9.	Page 6, 1.3.10: The words 'relations between' appear twice. Delete.	Accepted	This is a grammatical error, we will correct for the next iteration
10.	Page 6, 1.3.13: 'Most violence is reportedly instigated by unknown perpetrators, therefore identifying actors and trends in violence in Baghdad is difficult'. It is therefore obvious that 'identifying actors...is therefore difficult'. The inability to identify actors has no obvious bearing on the identification of trends in violence. <b>Should be simply:</b> 'Most violence is reportedly instigated by unknown perpetrators'; and I would suggest this be relocated as the final sentence in 1.3.12.	n/a	See HO response to comment 6

11.	Page 6, 1.3.13: 'Over 2014 and into 2015 ISIL and...' <b>Should be:</b> 'In 2014 and 2015 ISIL and...'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
12.	Page 6, 1.3.13: '...sectarian discord, usually targeting Shia neighbourhoods, government buildings and security checkpoints, but also included bombings of markets, restaurants, parks and places of worship (mosques / shrines)'. <b>Should be:</b> '...sectarian discord. Usual targets have been Shia neighbourhoods, government buildings and security checkpoints, but markets, restaurants, parks and places of worship (mosques shrines) have also been hit'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
13.	Page 6, 1.3.14: <b>Re-write thus:</b> 'Baghdad governorate, which remains under the control of the Gol and the ISF supported by Shia militias, is statistically the most violent in Iraq (as well as the most populous with around 20% of total population). In 2014-2015 it witnessed a significant increase in violence compared with 2012 and, to a lesser extent, 2013, based on Iraq Body Count (IBC) and UNAMI data. Note that although the sources use different definitions, and casualties are probably under-reported, the trends in the intensity of violence are consistent between different data sources.'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
14.	Page 7, 1.3.15: <b>Re-write thus:</b> 'IBC documented 1,116 civilian fatalities in Baghdad governorate in 2012; 3,077 in 2013; and 2,718 in 2014. UNAMI reported 3,702 civilian fatalities in Baghdad governorate in 2014. For 2013, UNAMI has published data for the Baghdad governorate only for April-December, when there were 2,863 civilian fatalities, compared with 2,986 for the same period of 2014. UNAMI recorded 8,735 civilians injured in 2014, compared to 11,791 wounded reported by 'Musings on Iraq' during 2014. Both UNAMI and Musings on Iraq document similar levels of civilian casualties continuing into 2015. In January-September 2015 UNAMI recorded 2,843 civilian fatalities and 6,848 wounded in Baghdad governorate.'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
15.	Page 7, 1.3.16: '...in 2014. While Musings on Iraq data on the numbers...' <b>Remove the word 'While'</b> (otherwise, grammatically, it is not a sentence).	n/a	See HO response to comment 6

16.	.Page 7, 1.3.16: 'Despite the higher levels of violence, displacement remained low (at around 60,000 persons), with the majority of those displaced (over 40,000) moving within the governorate by early 2015. Over 300,000 persons have been displaced from elsewhere in Iraq to Baghdad governorate as of March 2015'. I am unsure that a figure of 60,000 displaced persons can be described simply as 'low'. <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'Despite the higher levels of violence, displacement from Baghdad governorate since the start of 2014 was relatively low (nearly 58,000 persons), with the majority of these (over 36,000) moving within the governorate, as of October 2015. At the same date, Baghdad governorate was hosting some 541,000 people displaced from elsewhere in Iraq since the start of 2014.'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
17.	Page 7, 1.3.17 - 1.3.19: These paragraphs will need replacing in light of the new Iraq Country Guidance case of <b>AA (Article 15(c)) Iraq CG [2015] UKUT 00544 (IAC)</b> promulgated on 5 October 2015. This is a task to be undertaken by Home Office decision makers.	Accepted	See HO response to comment 6
18.	Page 8, 1.3.22: 'In 2014 there was an average of 126 persons killed per month (based on data collated by the blogger Joel Wing), a 68 per cent increase from 2013 figures and a 78 per cent increase from 2012 (based on IBC data – different reporting methodologies may apply, so comparisons should be considered a guide only).' <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'In 2014 an average of 126 persons were killed per month (based on data collated by the blogger Joel Wing), a 68 per cent increase over 2013 and a 78 per cent increase over 2012 (based on IBC data; note that different reporting methodologies may apply, so comparisons should be considered a guide only).'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
19.	Page 8, 1.3.22: '...had been cleared, with insurgents routed further north.' <b>End this sentence</b> after 'cleared'. The rest means little.	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
20.	Page 8, 1.3.24: 'Displacement data shows just under half of the families displaced from Babil, 664, had relocated elsewhere in the governorate'. <b>Should be:</b> 'As of October 2015 35,600 persons from Babil had been displaced since the start of 2014, of whom some 14,500 had relocated within the governorate'.	n/a	See HO response to comment 6

21.	Page 8, 1.3.25 - 1.3.27: These paragraphs will <b>need replacing</b> in light of the new Iraq Country Guidance case of <b>AA (Article 15(c)) Iraq CG [2015] UKUT 00544 (IAC)</b> promulgated on 5 October 2015. This is a task to be undertaken by Home Office decision makers.	Accepted	
22.	Page 9, 1.3.28: 'Quadissiya' is <b>usually spelled</b> : 'Qadissiya'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
23.	Page 9, 1.3.29: '...remained relatively stable in 2014'. <b>Should be</b> : '...remained relatively stable in 2014-2015'.	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
24.	Page 9, 1.3.29: '...recorded in 2014) – Basra and Kerbala the highest levels (with 128 and 200 fatalities respectively for the year) – out of a total population of 6.7 million for the eight governorates'. <b>Amend thus</b> : '...recorded in 2014), and Basra and Kerbala the highest levels (with 128 and 200 fatalities respectively for the year), out of a total population of 6.7 million for the eight governorates'	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
25.	Page 9, 1.3.30 - 1.3.31: These paragraphs will <b>need replacing</b> in light of the new Iraq Country Guidance case of <b>AA (Article 15(c)) Iraq CG [2015] UKUT 00544 (IAC)</b> promulgated on 5 October 2015. This is a task to be undertaken by Home Office decision makers.	Accepted	
26.	Page 9, 1.3.33: '...remained stable in 2014, with low levels of violence.' <b>Should be</b> : '...remained stable in 2014-2015, with almost no violence'.	n/a	See HO response to comment 6
27.	Page 9, 1.3.33: 'Mass casualty terrorist attacks were rare in KRI, although in November 2014 a suicide bomber launched an attack on a government building in Erbil, resulting in approximately 10 fatalities. ISIL later assumed responsibility'. <b>Re-phrase thus</b> : 'Mass casualty attacks are rare in the KRI, although in November 2014 a suicide bomber from the IS group attacked a government building in Erbil, killing himself and six others; and on 17 April 2015 another suicide attacker from IS detonated a car bomb outside the US Consulate in Erbil, killing three people'.	Not Accepted	See HO response to comment 6. Also, re: reference to IS, the Home Office refers to ISIL rather than any other variant, in line with the FCO's preferred terminology

28.	Page 9, 1.3.34: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'The threat from ISIL remains along the KRI borders with Ninewa and Diyala governorates. In August 2014 an ISIL offensive threatened local populations in southern Erbil, resulting in localised displacement. By the end of 2014, however, a Kurdish counter-offensive had pushed ISIL back'.	See HO response to comment 6	See HO response to comment 6
	<b>Information</b>		
			<p><b>Dr George has helpfully recommended re-wording text to make it clearer, provided additional information and / or to continue to use existing sources but update the access date to 23 or 26 October 2015.</b></p> <p><b>For the most part we have accepted these recommendations. However this is on the proviso that when we update the country information section of the CIG the source material remains relevant and has not been superseded by more recent information. If it no longer remains relevant (or accurate), we may not implement the recommendations below.</b></p> <p><b>We will also update the access dates to when the material is accessed by us, which may be a later date than 23 / 26 October 2015.</b></p>

29.	Page 11, 2.1.1: <b>Should be:</b> 'Iraq remained one of the most vulnerable states in the world in 2015, ranking 12th on the Fund for Peace's, 'Fragile States Index' (compared with 13th in 2014), with weak or poor scores against all twelve primary social, economic and political indicators and the lowest possible recorded scores on 'security apparatus' and 'group grievance', the latter respectively including internal armed conflict and sectarian based conflicts.'	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration if the information remains relevant.
30.	<b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'The Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research's <i>Conflict Barometer 2014</i> categorised the situation in Iraq as a "highly violent conflict", adding: "IS and other Sunni militant groups fought the government, which was supported by Shiite militias, Kurdish Peshmerga, pro-government Sunni tribal fighters, Iran, and a US-led coalition. This conflict was given an intensity rating of 5, the highest possible. Other conflicts were less intense: that between Shia factions and the government was allocated a rating of 3; while those between the Kurdistan Regional government and the Baghdad government and a territorial dispute with Iran were each given a rating of 1.2"'.  Page 11, 2.1.3: <b>Replace the map</b> with the latest version, dated 17 September 2015; 'as of 12 March 2015'. Should be: 'as of 17 September 2015'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration if the information remains relevant.
31.	Page 11, footnotes: footnote 1 <b>should be:</b>  1 Fund for Peace, 'Fragile States Index 2014', <a href="http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/">http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/</a> Accessed: 23 October 2015	Accepted	We will update this in the next iteration
32.	Page 11, footnotes: footnote 2 <b>should be:</b>  2 Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research, <i>Conflict Barometer 2014</i> . <a href="http://www.hiik.de/en/konfliktbarometer/pdf/ConflictBarometer_2014.pdf">http://www.hiik.de/en/konfliktbarometer/pdf/ConflictBarometer_2014.pdf</a> Accessed: 23 October 2015	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our house style to indent footnotes
33.		Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes



34.	<p>Page 12, footnotes: Footnote 3 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>3 Institute of the Study of War, Control of Terrain in Iraq,  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/2014-09-17%20Control%20Zone%20Map.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/2014-09-17%20Control%20Zone%20Map.pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our house style to indent footnotes
35.	<p>Page 13, 2.1.5: <b>Replace this with extensive excerpts from the latest such report, issued in June 2015, thus:</b></p> <p>'The UNAMI/ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i>, issued in June 2015, stated:...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will include this in the next iteration
36.	<p>39. Page 13, 2.1.6: <b>Replace with:</b></p> <p>'The same report stated: "UNAMI/OHCHR also received some reports alleging violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations or abuses committed by ISF [Iraqi Security Forces] and affiliated armed groups that occurred during the reporting period..."</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will include this in the next iteration
37.	<p>Page 13, footnotes: footnote 4 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>4 UNAMI/ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i>, June 2015.  <a href="http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf">http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015</p>	Partially Accepted	We will update the access date if the source remains relevant but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
38.	<p>Page 14, 2.1.8: This <b>needs updating</b> but Jane's is available only on subscription, and I don't have access!</p>	Accepted	We will update this in the next iteration

39.	<p>Page 14, proposed new 2.1.9: I would <b>suggest inserting</b> a section 2.1.9 comprising lengthy extracts from the UN Secretary-General's latest report on Iraq, thus:</p> <p>'UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's <i>Fourth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2169 (2014)</i>, dated 13 July 2015, states:...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will include this in the next iteration
40.	<p>Page 14, proposed <b>new section 2.1.10</b>: This would be a continuation of the excerpt from the UN Secretary-General's latest report, thus:</p> <p>"43. Civilians continue to bear the brunt of the ongoing armed conflict in Iraq and to be subjected to acts of violence and terrorism. Since my previous report, from 1 May to 27 June, UNAMI recorded a minimum number of 3,268 civilian casualties (1,158 killed and 2,110 wounded), bringing total civilian casualties in 2015 to at least 11,996 (3,823 killed and 8,173 wounded)..."</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will include this in the next iteration
41.	<p>44. Page 14, 2.2.1: <b>Replace with:</b> 'Following the national elections in April 2014, the incumbent Prime Minister Nouri al Maliki's State of Law bloc was the dominant political group. A Congressional Research Service report, however, stated: "Maliki's route to a third term was upended by the June 2014 IS-led offensive, which U.S. officials publicly blamed on Maliki's efforts to marginalize Sunni leaders and citizens...Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani appeared to undermine Maliki by calling for an inclusive government that 'avoids mistakes of the past.'"7. A UNAMI report covering events between 11 September and 10 December 2014, stated:.....'</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration, if the section is retained

42.	<p>45. Page 14, footnotes: If my recommendations concerning new sections 2.1.9 and 2.1.10 are accepted, <b>a new footnote 7</b> will need to be inserted (and of course the numbers of all subsequent footnotes would need to be amended accordingly). The new footnote 7 would be:</p> <p>7 UN Secretary-General, <i>Fourth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2169 (2014)</i>, 13 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/images/SGReports/N1521149%20(2).pdf">http://www.uniraq.org/images/SGReports/N1521149%20(2).pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
43.	<p>Page 14, footnotes: footnote 7 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>7 Congressional Research Service, <i>Iraq: Politics, Security, and US Policy</i>, 16 September 2015.  <a href="http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf">http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
44.	<p>Page 15, 2.2.2: <b>Replace entirely</b> with: ‘The Congressional Research Service observed:</p> <p>“The Abbadi cabinet, which was confirmed on September 8, appeared to satisfy U.S. and Iraqi demands for inclusiveness...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
45.	<p>Page 15, 2.2.3: <b>Replace entirely</b> with: ‘The new government’s policies have attempted to address some of the Sunnis grievances, the Congressional Research Service report stating:</p> <p>“U.S. officials say that Abbadi is attempting to win back Sunni support through steps such as ordering the ISF to cease shelling Sunni-inhabited areas controlled by Islamic State forces and abolishing the ‘Office of the Commander-in-Chief...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration

46.	<p>Page 15 footnotes: footnote 8 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>8 UNAMI, <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 September – 10 December 2014</i>, February 2015.  <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;task=download&amp;id=1045_891d38eb9b9510053f5424cab2b286ba&amp;Itemid=650&amp;lang=en">http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;task=download&amp;id=1045_891d38eb9b9510053f5424cab2b286ba&amp;Itemid=650&amp;lang=en</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
47.	<p>Page 15 footnotes. Footnote 9 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>9 Congressional Research Service, <i>Iraq: Politics, Security, and US Policy</i>, 16 September 2015.  <a href="http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf">http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
48.	<p>Page 16 footnotes. Footnote 10 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>10 Congressional Research Service, <i>Iraq: Politics, Security, and US Policy</i>, 16 September 2015.  <a href="http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf">http://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
49.	<p>Page 16, footnotes: link access dates for footnotes 11 and 12 <b>should be changed</b> to 23 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
50.	<p>Page 16, footnotes: footnote 12 <b>should be corrected to:</b></p> <p>12 Iraq Body Count, 'Iraq 2014: Civilian deaths almost doubling year on year', 1 January 2015.  <a href="https://www.iraqbodycount.org/analysis/numbers/2014/">https://www.iraqbodycount.org/analysis/numbers/2014/</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our house style to indent footnotes

51.	Page 17, 2.3.4: <b>Update the table</b> to include the April - September 2015 data:...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
52.	Page 17, footnotes: footnote 13 <b>should be:</b>  13 UNAMI, <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 September – 10 December 2014</i> , February 2015. <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;task=download&amp;id=1045_891d38eb9b9510053f5424cab2b286ba&amp;Itemid=650&amp;lang=en">http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;task=download&amp;id=1045_891d38eb9b9510053f5424cab2b286ba&amp;Itemid=650&amp;lang=en</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
53.	Page 18: This page, comprising an extensive quotation from the Musings on Iraq blog, can remain unchanged, except that the following <b>two paragraphs should be inserted</b> towards the bottom of the page (after '...shared by the authorities'):	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration
54.	Page 18, footnotes: footnote 14 <b>should be:</b>  14 UNAMI, 'UN Casualty Figures for the Month of September 2015, 1 October 2015. <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;id=4344:un-casualty-figures-for-the-month-of-september-2015&amp;Itemid=633&amp;lang=en">http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;id=4344:un-casualty-figures-for-the-month-of-september-2015&amp;Itemid=633&amp;lang=en</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
55.	Page 19, 2.3.6: The heading is missing from the first chart. It <b>should be:</b> 'Chart 1 - Security Incidents In Iraq By Province 2014'	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
56.	Page 19, 2.3.6: The column headings ('Jan', 'Feb' etc) <b>should each be shifted</b> one column to the right!	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
57.	Page 19, footnotes: link access dates for these two footnotes <b>should be</b> 23 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

58.	Page 20, 2.3.6: The table heading <b>should be</b> : 'Chart 3 - Wounded in Iraq By Province 2014'.	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
59.	Page 20, footnotes: link access dates for this footnote <b>should be</b> 23 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
60.	Page 21, 2.3.7: 'Joel Wing in Musings on Iraq, collated media reports on the number of incidents and casualties across Iraq by week from June 2014 to February 2015. The number of incidents in March 2015 (616) was broadly similar to those in February 2015. The number of incidents and casualties were highest in the summer of 2014 and gradually decline to early 2015:' <b>Amend this</b> , and replace the existing table with the equivalent table for 2015, thus:...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will include this in the next iteration
61.	Page 22, footnotes: footnote 18 <b>should be</b> :  18 'Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area', 20 October 2015. <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
62.	Page 22, 2.3.8: 'The Iraq Body Count indicated that it was difficult to identify the perpetrators of violence in Iraq in 2014. 19 The IBC source observed:' <b>Re-phrase thus</b> : 'Iraq Body Count noted that it was difficult to identify the perpetrators of violence in Iraq in 2014.19:  "Among the 17,049..."	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration

63.	<p>Page 22, 2.3.10: <b>Amend this</b> as follows:</p> <p>‘Musings on Iraq data for 2014 showed a marked decline in car bomb attacks throughout the year, from an average of 91.6 per month in January-May to 53.1 per month in June-December. As car bombs are favoured by IS, the blog suggested that the decline might indicate that IS’s capacity to launch such attacks had been reduced. 22 The 2015 figures, however, belied any such interpretation. On 20 October 2015 the blog reported:</p> <p>“Finally, IS continued with its car bomb campaign, which began in July. During the second week of October there were a total of 51 VBIEDs [Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices] compared to 18 the week before. Of those 51, only 6 hit their targets, while the other 45 were destroyed. .. These attacks will likely remain at this pace for the next several months”</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration.
64.	<p>Page 22, footnotes: <b>insert a new footnote 23</b>, and amend the numbers of all subsequent footnotes accordingly. The new footnote should be:</p> <p>23 ‘Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area’, 20 October 2015. <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
65.	<p>Page 22, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 23 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
66.	<p>Page 23, 2.3.12: <b>Correct this</b> as follows: ‘Although the Islamic State (IS, formerly calling itself Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant [ISIL]) remained the main insurgent group in Iraq, other Sunni anti-government groups included Jaysh Rijal-al Tariqah al-Naqshabandia (JRTN) and the closely-related General Military Council of Iraqi Revolutionaries and Iraqi Ba’ath Party; the Fallujah Military Council; the Council of Revolutionaries of the Tribes of Anbar; the 1920 Brigades; the Islamic Army of Iraq; Jaysh al-Mujahidin; and Ansar al-Islam.’</p>	Partially Accepted	We will continue to use ISIL as the preferred acronym



67.	Page 23, 2.3.13: 'There are estimated to be 100,000 in the Shiite militias mobilised in the defence of Baghdad. <sup>26</sup> '. <b>Change this to:</b> 'A September 2015 Congressional Research Service report states: "Current estimates of the total Shiite militiamen in Iraq number about 100,000".'	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
68.	Page 23, footnotes: footnote 24 <b>should be:</b>  24 Institute for the Study of War, <i>Beyond The Islamic State: Iraq's Sunni Insurgency</i> , October 2014. <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Sunni%20Insurgency%20in%20Iraq.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Sunni%20Insurgency%20in%20Iraq.pdf</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
69.	Page 23, footnotes: <b>footnote 26 should be:</b>  26 Congressional Research Service, <i>Iraq: Politics, Security, and US Policy</i> , 16 September 2015. <a href="http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf">http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS21968.pdf</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
70.	Page 23, 2.4.1: <b>Amend as follows:</b> 'In the period January 2014 until end-September 2015 the International Organisation for Migration recorded 534,456 families, comprising 3,206,736 individuals, as being newly internally displaced in Iraq, divided between 3,476 separate locations. <sup>28</sup> The following map shows the internally displaced by category of location.'	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
71.	Page 23, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
72.	Page 24, 2.4.1: <b>replace the map</b> with the equivalent map for October 2015 at <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2146/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2146/download</a>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration



73.	<p>Page 24, footnotes. A new footnote 28 is required (and all subsequent footnotes will need to be renumbered accordingly). The new footnote <b>should be:</b></p> <p>28 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, IDP Crisis - January 2014-29 September 2015.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
74.	<p>Page 24, 2.4.2: <b>Change, as follows:</b> “The International Organisation for Migration also reported that: “As of 29 September 2015, seven governorates host 82% (2,638,566 individuals) of the total identified IDP population. Anbar hosts 18% (583,050 individuals), Baghdad 18% (577,584), Dahuk 13% (426,966), Kirkuk 13% (401,280), Erbil 9% (284,310), Ninewa 6% (203,652) and Sulaymaniyah 5% (161,724). Central North Iraq hosts 68% of the IDPs (2,162,772 individuals), the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) hosts 27% of the IDPs (873,000 individuals) and South Iraq hosts 5% of the IDPs (179,964 individuals).”</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
75.	<p>Page 24, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
76.	<p>Page 24, footnotes: footnote 29 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>29 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round XXX October 2015.  <a href="http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf">http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
77.	<p>Page 25, 2.5.1: <b>Re-phrase as follows:</b> ‘Sectarian tensions have escalated with the increased violence in 2014-2015, and these tensions affect civilians of <i>all</i> ethnic and religious backgrounds. In a report dated October 2014 OCHA also noted that ‘protection concerns are equally faced by groups who are now in the minority in the areas of displacement, including those from Shia and Sunni communities.’</p>	Partially Accepted	The italicised ‘all’ is not from within a quote and so strays from being neutral language

78.	Page 25, 2.5.2: <b>Re-phrase as follows:</b> ‘In 2015 sectarianism persisted as a driver of violence, with ISIL adapting its political and military strategy, for example by targeting Shia civilians in Baghdad, to provoke a sectarian response from the Iraqi government 31; and with government-allied Shia militias targeting Sunnis. In January 2015, for example, at least 72 people from the majority Sunni village of Barwanah in Diyala governorate were singled out and killed by Shia armed groups. The <i>New York Times</i> reported that witness accounts suggested militiamen called out individuals’ names prior to the mass execution. Intense clashes had occurred around Barwanah in the preceding days, and internally displaced persons hosted by Barwanah in recent months had included some from the nearby village of Sinsil, an IS stronghold.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
79.	Page 25, 2.5.3: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> ‘In a late January 2015 speech at a security summit in Baghdad, Prime Minister Al-Abadi, apparently referring to the atrocities in Barwanah [see above], declared that government or militia fighters who took part in serious criminal behaviour should be regarded as “outlaws” and were “no less dangerous than terrorists”.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
80.	Page 25, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
81.	Page 25, footnotes: <b>amend footnote 30, thus:</b>  30 OCHA, <i>2014/2015 Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview: Summary</i> , October 2014. <a href="https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/CAP/HNO_2014-2015_Iraq.pdf">https://docs.unocha.org/sites/dms/CAP/HNO_2014-2015_Iraq.pdf</a> Accessed 26 October 2015	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes

82.	Page 26, 2.6.1: <b>Amend and insert new quotation, thus:</b> ‘The governorate is divided into districts although different sources give different numbers of districts, depending on definitions. The UN’s Joint Analysis Unit stated that there were ten: Abu Ghraib....Sader/2. 35....A report dated July 2015 from the NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq also gave a population for the governorate of 6,696,596 but stated: “The governorate is divided in 14 districts. The districts of Adhamiyah, Karkh, Karadah, Kadhimyah, Mansour, Sadr City, Al Rashid, Rusafa and 9 Nissan are part of Baghdad city, while the districts of Al-Mada’in, Taji, Tarmiya, Mahmudiya and Abu Ghraib comprise the rest of the governorate”	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
83.	Page 26, 2.6.1: <b>Delete:</b> ‘Neither source takes into account movements into and out of the governorate during 2014 and 2015’	Accepted	Agree that this is not necessary, will update in the next iteration
84.	Page 26, 2.6.3: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> ‘For background information on the ethno-religious demographic changes in Baghdad, compare the series of maps of ‘ethno-religious neighbourhoods’ of Baghdad between 2003 and 2009. 38. Joel Wing discusses these maps in an entry dated November 2009 in his ‘Musings on Iraq’ blog, noting the increasing concentration of Sunnis in western Baghdad, with enclaves in the south and centre; and the parallel concentration of Shias in other parts of the city.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
85.	Page 26, 2.6.4: <b>This needs updating, as follows:</b> ‘The Institute for the Study of War (ISW’s), Control of Terrain map, dated 20 July 2015, showed Baghdad governorate under the control of the Iraqi Security Forces.40 The ISW’s ‘ISIL Sanctuary Map’, as at 15 September 2015, showed ISIL attack and support zones, including all of Baghdad governorate	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
86.	Page 26, 2.6.5: line 6: <b>‘to’ should be ‘the’.</b>	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
87.	Page 26, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

88.	<p>Page 26, footnotes: <b>Replace footnote 35 with:</b></p> <p>UN Joint Analysis Unit, Baghdad governorate profile 2013, February 2014.  <a href="http://www.iau-iraq.org/documents/475/GP-Baghdad%202013.pdf">http://www.iau-iraq.org/documents/475/GP-Baghdad%202013.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
89.	<p>Page 26 footnotes: <b>Insert new footnote 36</b> and re-number all subsequent footnotes:</p> <p>36 <i>Baghdad Governorate Profile</i>, NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq, updated July 2015.  <a href="http://www.ncciraq.org/images/infobygov/BaghdadGovernorateProfileNCCI.pdf">http://www.ncciraq.org/images/infobygov/BaghdadGovernorateProfileNCCI.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
90.	<p>Page 26, footnotes: <b>Delete</b> existing footnote 38. Replace with:</p> <p>38 <a href="http://gulf2000.columbia.edu/maps.shtml">http://gulf2000.columbia.edu/maps.shtml</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
91.	<p>Page 26, footnotes: <b>Change footnote 40 to:</b></p> <p>40 Institute for the Study of War, 'Control of Terrain in Iraq', 20 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
92.	<p>Page 26, footnotes: <b>Change footnote 41 to:</b></p> <p>Institute for the Study of War, 'ISIL Sanctuary Map', 15 September 2015.  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/isis-sanctuary-map-september-15-2015">http://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/isis-sanctuary-map-september-15-2015</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

93.	Page 27, 2.6.8: 'potential' <b>should be</b> 'potentially'. It's unclear to what the two acronyms refer. Replace with 'suicide bombers, whether using cars or on foot, wearing explosive vests'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
94.	Page 27, 2.6.9: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'An October 2014 ISW report noted that other Sunni factions the General Military Council of Iraqi Revolutionaries, Ansar al-Islam, Jaysh al-Mujahidin and the 1920 Brigades were also operating in the 'Baghdad Belts region	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
95.	Page 27, 2.6.11: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'Different sources compile data on fatalities and injuries using different methodologies, so datasets are not directly comparable. They can nevertheless indicate trends'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration
96.	Page 27 footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
97.	Page 27 footnotes: <b>Replace</b> footnote 49 with:  49 Institute for the Study of War, <i>Beyond The Islamic State: Iraq's Sunni Insurgency</i> , October 2014. <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Sunni%20Insurgency%20in%20Iraq.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Sunni%20Insurgency%20in%20Iraq.pdf</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will change the access date but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
98.	Page 28, 2.6.12: <b>Change/amend table entries</b> as follows:...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
99.	Page 28, 2.6.13: <b>Re-phrase as follows:</b> 'The following monthly data for civilian fatalities in the 2010 - September 2014 period is from the Iraq Body Count (IBC) data base, analysed for 'any perpetrators, in Baghdad province, any weapons, killing 1 or more'. Note that IBC's data is derived from media reports and may include civilians killed for criminal and other non-conflict related reasons.'	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
100	Page 28, footnotes: access dates for all links <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

101	<p>Page 28, footnotes. These need re-organising, with appropriate numbering changes. <b>The footnotes on this page should be:</b></p> <p>51 Iraq Body Count, <a href="https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/">https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.</p> <p>52 UNAMI, Civilian Casualties. <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;id=3141:un-casualty-figures-for-december-2014-deadliest-since-2008-in-iraq&amp;Itemid=633&amp;lang=en">http://www.uniraq.org/index.php?option=com_k2&amp;view=item&amp;id=3141:un-casualty-figures-for-december-2014-deadliest-since-2008-in-iraq&amp;Itemid=633&amp;lang=en</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.</p> <p>53 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, IDP Crisis - January 2014-29 September 2015. <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.</p> <p>54 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round XXX October 2015. <a href="http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf">http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
102	Page 30, 2.6.13: Data for the period up to September 2014 <b>should be added</b> to the table.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
103	Page 30, 2.6.14: This table can be <b>updated</b> to September 2014.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
104	Page 30, footnotes: access dates for all links <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
105	Page 30-31, 2.6.15: This table can be <b>updated</b> to include data for the period up to September 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

106	Page 31, 2.6.16: <b>Insert</b> 'figures' after 'UNAMI'.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
107	Page 31, footnotes: footnote 59: <b>Should be</b> 'UNAMI' and not 'UU'. Access date should be 26 October 2015.	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
108	Page 32, 2.6.16: The graph should be <b>updated</b> .	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
109	Page 32, 2.6.17: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'The Musings on Iraq blog collated the following figures for security incidents in Baghdad, based on media reports:'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
110	Page 32, 2.6.17: This table should be <b>updated</b> to mid-October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
111	Page 32, 2.6.18: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'For information on trends in violence in 2014-2015 see Musings on Iraq, '2014: Deadliest Year in Iraq Since Civil War Period', 6 January 2015; 60 and 'Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area', 20 October 2015.61'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
112	Page 32, footnotes: footnotes 60 and 61 <b>should be:</b>  60 '2014: Deadliest Year in Iraq Since Civil War Period', 6 January 2015 <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html</a> Accessed 23 October 2015.  61 'Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area', 20 October 2015. <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html</a> Accessed 23 October 2015	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
113	Page 33, 2.6.19: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'Baghdad remained a centre of frequent mass casualty attacks, predominantly, although not exclusive in Shia neighbourhoods.63 The blogger Joel Wing has observed that Baghdad has always been a target for insurgents intent on stoking sectarian tensions and undermining the government.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration



114	Page 33, 2.6.20: <b>Rephrase thus:</b> 'ISIL was responsible for repeated attacks deliberately targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure. On 25 August 2014, for example, IS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on a Shia mosque in New Baghdad, reportedly in retaliation for an attack on Sunni worshippers in Diyala province a few days before. <sup>65</sup> On 18 July 2015 IS claimed responsibility for a car bombing in the mainly Shia town of Khan Bani Saad, north of Baghdad that killed 120 people and injured at least 130 at a busy market. <sup>66</sup> On 14 August 2015 an IS truck bomb killed at least 67 people at the Jameela market in the predominantly Shia district of Sadr City. <sup>67</sup> On 18 September 2015 IS perpetrated two suicide bombings in Baghdad markets, killing at least 23 people and wounded more than 60	Partially Accepted	We will continue to use ISIL as the preferred acronym
115	Page 33, 2.6.21: If acronyms are going to be used, they must be explained. After 'SVBIED' <b>should come, in square brackets</b> , 'suicide car bombs'.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
116	Page 33, 2.6.21: <b>Re-phrase the Musings on Iraq material, thus:</b> 'Musings on Iraq data for 2014 showed a marked decline in car bomb attacks, from an average of 91.6 per month in January-May to 53.1 per month in June-December. The blog suggested that this might indicate that IS's capacity to launch such attacks had been diminished. <sup>68</sup> The decline did not continue into 2015, however, and on 20 October 2015 the blog reported: "Finally, IS continued with its car bomb campaign, which began in July. During the second week of October there were a total of 51 VBIEDs [Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices] compared to 18 the week before. Of those 51, only 6 hit their targets, while the other 45 were destroyed... These attacks will likely remain at this pace for the next several months"	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
117	Page 33, 2.6.22: footnotes: <b>delete</b> existing footnotes 62 and 65. They are now redundant. Renumber subsequent footnotes. Link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
118	Page 33, footnotes: <b>new footnote 66:</b>  66 'Iraq violence: Car bomb kills scores in mainly Shia town', BBC website. <a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-33577817">http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-33577817</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration



119	<p>Page 33, footnotes: <b>new footnote 67:</b></p> <p>67 'Iraq truck bomb kills dozens at Baghdad market', BBC website.  <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-33901796">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-33901796</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
120	<p>Page 33, footnotes: <b>new footnote 68:</b></p> <p>68 'Iraq: Baghdad market bombings kill at least 23', BBC website.  <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-34277021">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-34277021</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
121	<p>Page 33, footnotes: footnote 67 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>67 Institute for the Study of War, <i>ISIS Battle Plan for Baghdad</i>, 27 June 2014,  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/ISIS-not-culminated.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/ISIS-not-culminated.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
122	<p>Page 33, footnotes: <b>Insert a new footnote 68</b>, and amend the numbers of all subsequent footnotes accordingly. The new footnote should be:</p> <p>68 'Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area', 20 October 2015.  <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
123	<p>Page 36, 2.6.26: I would suggest inserting the following <b>new Paragraph 2.6.27:</b></p> <p>'UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's <i>Fourth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2169 (2014)</i>, dated 13 July 2015, states:...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration

124	<p>Page 36, footnotes: the new footnote 'xx' related to my proposed new paragraph <b>would be:</b></p> <p>xx UN Secretary-General, <i>Fourth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2169 (2014)</i>, 13 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.uniraq.org/images/SGReports/N1521149%20(2).pdf">http://www.uniraq.org/images/SGReports/N1521149%20(2).pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
125	<p>Page 37, 2.6.27: <b>Correct as follows:</b> 'There were cases of abductions, kidnappings and forced evictions in Baghdad carried out by armed groups affiliated to or supportive of government forces, as well as clashes between ISF and non-state armed groups and between Shia armed groups. On 22 July 2014, for example, armed groups driving civilian vehicles without number plates and accompanied by ISF vehicles entered the majority Sunni area of Daria, in south east Baghdad, and threatened the residents, claiming they were affiliated to ISIL. After the incident reportedly 50 families left to relocate to Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
126	<p>Page 37, 2.6.27: As a result of the deletion of the first 'example' in this section - because it is repeated at 2.6.30 - its <b>footnote must be deleted</b> and subsequent footnotes must be renumbered.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
127	<p>Page 37, 2.6.29: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'In October 2014 Amnesty International documented the fates of four Sunnis who were abducted and killed, reportedly by Shia militias<sup>76</sup>, and of a further six individuals who were abducted and were still missing.<sup>77</sup> The same report quoted a member of AAH, on duty at a checkpoint north of Baghdad, as stating: "if we catch 'those dogs' [Sunnis] coming down from the Tikrit area we execute them; in those areas they are all working with DA'ESH [IS's acronym based on its Arabic former name]. They come to Baghdad to commit terrorist crimes. So we have to stop them".</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
128	<p>Page 37, 2.6.30: <b>after 'AAH' insert:</b> [Asa'ib Ahl al-Haqq ; 'League of the Righteous']</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
129	<p>Page 37, 2.6.30: at the end, <b>there should be a footnote reference</b>, which will be numbered 78 but will be the same as the existing footnote 73.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

130	Page 37, footnotes: <b>Re-organise footnotes:</b> delete 73...74 becomes 73 etc. Date of access to all links should be 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
131	Page 38, 2.6.32 - 2.6.33: I would propose <b>adding a new paragraph</b> 2.6.33, with more recent material. It might read: ' <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i> , published jointly by UNAMI and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and issued in June 2015, recorded:...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
132	Page 38, footnotes: A <b>footnote should be included</b> for the proposed new 2.6.33 (see above), thus:  xx <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i> , UNAMI and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), June 2015. <a href="http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCReport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf">http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCReport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf</a> Accessed 26 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
133	Page 38, 2.6.34: <b>Correct, thus:</b> 'The Institute for the Study of War's (ISW's) 'Control of Terrain' report, dated 20 July 2015, showed Babil's capital, Al-Hillah, to be under the control of the Iraqi Security Forces, but noted that Yusufiyah, in the north of the governorate, was an area that ISW was watching because of a risk of conflict or a change of control	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
134	Page 38, 2.6.35: <b>Update and correct the table as follows:</b> ...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
135	Pages 39, 2.6.36: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'The following graph, based on Iraq Body Count data, shows fatality trends in Babil between March 2003 and September 2014'.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration

136	<p>Page 39, footnotes: footnote 81 <b>should now be:</b></p> <p>81 Institute for the Study of War, 'Control of Terrain in Iraq', 20 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
137	<p>Page 39, footnotes: footnote 84 date of access <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
138	<p>Page 39, footnotes: footnote 85 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>85 '2014: Deadliest Year in Iraq Since Civil War Period', 6 January 2015  <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
139	<p>Page 39, footnotes: footnotes 86 and 87 <b>should now be:</b></p> <p>86 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, IDP Crisis - January 2014-29 September 2015.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p> <p>87 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round XXX October 2015.  <a href="http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf">http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
140	<p>Page 40, 2.6.36: <b>update</b> the graph.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

141	Page 40, 2.6.37: The word 'of' is <b>missing</b> from 'significant levels civilian displacement'. The word 'could' is missing from 'indicated it be 8-10 months'.	Accepted	This is a typographical error, we will update in the next iteration
142	Page 40, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
143	Page 41, 2.6.41: <b>Re-phrase, adding a report</b> of a more recent incident, thus: 'More data on incidents is available on the blog, Musings on Iraq. <sup>95</sup> On 20 October 2015, for example, the blog stated: "IS operations in Babil have been at a very low level since it lost its base in Jurf al-Sakhr at the end of 2014. During the week however a car bomb went off in Mahmudiya that killed 3 and wounded 17".'	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
144	Page 41, 2.6.42: <b>Re-do, and add footnote, thus:</b> 'For general background information on Babil see Joint Analysis and Policy Unit, <i>Babil Governorate Profile</i> , October 2015	Partially Accepted	We will re-do the footnote minus the italic style
145	'Quadissiya' in the sub-heading <b>should be</b> 'Qadissiya'.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
146	Page 41, 2.6.43: <b>correct, thus:</b> 'The Institute for the Study of War's (ISW's) 'Control of Terrain' report, dated 20 July 2015, showed the southern governorates of Kerbala, Najaf, Muthanna, Basrah, Thi-Qar, Missan, Qadissiya and Wassit to be under the control of the Iraqi Security Forces	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration

147	<p>150. Page 41, footnotes: footnotes: the following <b>new footnotes</b> 96 and 97 are required, and will mean that all subsequent footnotes must be renumbered:</p> <p>96 'Iraq Forces Make Major Advances In Baiji Area', 20 October 2015.  <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.co.uk/2015/10/iraq-forces-make-major-advances-in.html</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p> <p>97 Joint Analysis and Policy Unit, <i>Babil Governorate Profile</i>, October 2015.<sup>97</sup>  <a href="http://www.iau-iraq.org/gp/print/GP-Babil.asp">http://www.iau-iraq.org/gp/print/GP-Babil.asp</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
148	<p>Page 41, footnotes: <b>replace</b> existing footnote 96 with:</p> <p>98 Institute for the Study of War, 'Control of Terrain in Iraq', 20 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
149	<p>152. Page 41, 2.6.44: the table starting on page 41 and going over to page 42 <b>should be updated thus:...</b></p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
150	<p>153. Page 41, footnotes: footnotes 97 and 98 <b>become</b> 99 and 100.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
151	<p>Page 42, 2.6.45: <b>Re-phrase, thus:</b> 'The following graph, based on Iraq Body Count data, shows fatalities in the governorates of Kerbala, Najaf, Muthanna, Basrah, Thi-Qar, Missan, Quadissiya and Wassit between March 2003 and September 2014. Again, decision makers should be aware of the differences in data recording between sources:'</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration

152	<p>Page 42, footnotes: 99 and 100 <b>become</b> 101 and 102, thus:</p> <p>101 Iraq Body Count database  <a href="https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/">https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p> <p>102 '2014: Deadliest Year in Iraq Since Civil War Period', 6 January 2015  <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
153	<p>Page 42, footnote 101 <b>is deleted</b>.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
154	<p>Page 42, footnotes: footnotes 103 and 104 <b>become</b>:</p> <p>103 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, IDP Crisis - January 2014-29 September 2015.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p> <p>104 International Organisation for Migration, 'Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round XXX October 2015'.  <a href="http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf">http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
155	<p>Page 43, 2.6.46: <b>Re-phrase thus</b>: 'The following graph shows fatalities in the governorates of Kerbala, Najaf, Muthanna, Basrah, Thi-Qar, Missan, Qadissiya and Wassit during 2014, based on data recorded by Joel Wing on his Musings on Iraq blog. Decision makers should be aware that the blog's data definitions differ from those of other sources such as Iraq Body Count.'</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration



156	Page 43, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 26 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
157	'Civilian casualty figures from the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) focus on governorates significantly affected by violence - mainly those in contested areas of northern and central Iraq, including Baghdad.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
158	Page 44, 2.6.48: <b>Rephrase thus:</b> 'In early July 2014 up to 45 people were killed in Kerbala in clashes between state security forces and followers of anti-government Shia cleric Mahmoud al-Sarkhi. The violence was sparked by his arrest days after he published a letter criticising [Grand Ayatollah] Sistani's decree for Iraqis to fight alongside the ISF against Sunni insurgents.108 The Musings on Iraq blog said that the violence also affected Qadissiya governorate and that at least 160 of Al-Sarkhis's fighters had been killed or wounded.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
159	Page 44, 2.6.49: 'The OHCHR/UNAMI, 'Report on the protection of civilians in armed conflict in Iraq: 6 July to 10 September 2014'. <b>Should be:</b> 'The OHCHR/UNAMI, <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict in Iraq: 6 July to 10 September 2014</i> '.	Not Accepted	It is not house style to use italics
160	Page 44, footnotes: all footnotes <b>should be</b> standardised, and the date of access to all links <b>should be</b> 27 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
161	Page 44, footnotes: footnote 109 is incomplete. <b>It should be:</b>  109 July 2014 Over 5,000 Casualties In Iraq', <i>Musings on Iraq</i> , 1 August 2014. <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2014/08/july-2014-over-5000-casualties-in-iraq.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2014/08/july-2014-over-5000-casualties-in-iraq.html</a> Accessed 27 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
162	Page 45, footnotes: all footnotes <b>should be</b> standardised, and the date of access to all links <b>should be</b> 27 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration



163	. Page 46, 2.6.53: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> ‘According to Joel Wing’s blog, ‘Musings on Iraq’, in 2014 Basra suffered 119 violent attacks, ranking sixth amongst Iraq’s governorates in terms of the number of attacks. The blog noted that whilst ISIL launched some car bomb attacks in the governorate, there was much other violence perpetrated by gangs and militias.’	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
164	Page 165, new 2.6.54 and 2.6.55: I would <b>propose inserting</b> two new paragraphs with extracts from the UNAMI/OHCHR’s <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i> , published in June 2015. The new paragraphs would read:...	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
165	Page 46, sub-heading: ‘Sulaimaniya’ is a more usual <b>transliteration</b> of this name.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
166	Page 46, 2.6.54: <b>Rephrase and correct, thus:</b> ‘The Institute for the Study of War’s (ISW’s) ‘Control of Terrain’ report, dated 20 July 2015, showed Erbil to be under the control of Kurdish peshmerga forces.117 None of the three Kurdish-controlled governorates was listed as being an area of potential conflict. The Kurdistan Regional Government’s website affirmed that the KRI comprised parts of the governorates of Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Dahuk.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration
167	Page 46, 2.6.55: the table starting on page 46 and going over to page 47 <b>should be updated thus:...</b>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update this in the next iteration
168	Page 46, footnotes: new footnotes should be inserted as follows for the suggested two new paragraphs new 2.6.54 and 2.6.55, as follows:  xx UNAMI/OHCHR, <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i> , June 2015. <a href="http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf">http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf</a> Accessed 27 October 2015.	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes

169	<p>Page 46, footnotes: <b>replace existing footnote 117 with:</b></p> <p>117 Institute for the Study of War, 'Control of Terrain in Iraq', 20 July 2015.  <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20Control%20Map%202015-7-20.pdf</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
170	<p>Page 47, 2.6.56: <b>Re-phrase thus:</b> 'The following graph shows fatalities in the KRI (governorates of Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Dahuk) between March 2003 and September 2014:'.</p>	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration
171	<p>Page 47, footnotes: footnote 121 <b>becomes:</b></p> <p>121 Iraq Body Count database  <a href="https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/">https://www.iraqbodycount.org/database/</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
172	<p>Page 47, footnotes: <b>delete footnotes</b> 122 and 123. They are irrelevant, as UNAMI data does not feature in the table. Re-number footnotes accordingly.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
173	<p>Page 47, footnotes: new footnote 122 <b>should be:</b></p> <p>122 '2014: Deadliest Year in Iraq Since Civil War Period', 6 January 2015  <a href="http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html">http://musingsoniraq.blogspot.fr/2015/01/2014-deadliest-year-in-iraq-since-civil_6.html</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

174	<p>Page 47, footnotes: footnotes 124 and 125 <b>become:</b></p> <p>123 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, IDP Crisis - January 2014-29 September 2015.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download">http://iomiraq.net/file/2148/download</a>  Accessed 23 October 2015.</p> <p>124 International Organisation for Migration, Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round XXX October 2015.  <a href="http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf">http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20151013_IOM_DTM_RoundXXX_Report_October2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 26 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
175	Page 47, footnotes: link access dates for all <b>should be</b> 27 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
176	Page 48: <b>update</b> the graph.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
177	Page 48, footnotes: link access dates for all <b>should be</b> 27 October 2015.	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
178	Page 49, 2.6.59: no need to repeat the date of the attack in the body of the text. <b>Should be:</b> '...same day that the influx...'	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will correct for the next iteration
179	Page 49, 2.6.60: <b>amend thus:</b> 'ISIL threatened KRI territory into mid-2014. In August 2014 ISIL advanced north into the Ninewa Plains and Shirkhan District, as far as Makhmour on the southern edge of Erbil governorate. <sup>135</sup> By year's end, however, Kurdish forces had driven them back from northern Ninewa into Sinjar and clearing the north east of Diyala province, in the Jalawla and Sadiya areas. <sup>136</sup> The latest Institute for the Study of War (ISW) 'Control of Terrain' map shows Bashiqa, Qaraqoush, Tilkif and Wana in Ninewa governorate as contested areas.	Accepted	The suggested change reads better, we will update for the next iteration

180	<p><b>Insert a new paragraph 2.6.61</b> with updated information, thus:</p> <p>'In June 2015 UNAMI/OHCHR's <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i> reported: "On 17 April [2015], a vehicle laden with explosives was detonated in front of the United States Consulate in Erbil, Erbil governorate. Two civilians sitting in a café opposite the site of the detonation were killed and eight more were wounded. ISIL claimed responsibility for the attack on social media'.xx'.</p>	Partially Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update in the next iteration. It is not our house style to use italics.
181	<p>184. Page 49, 2.6.61: <b>insert</b> a new paragraph 2.6.61 with recent information, thus:</p> <p>'On 12 October 2015 <i>Iraq Oil Report</i> reported that at least six people had been shot dead by security forces in Sulaimaniya governorate during protests over economic and political grievances. The journal stated:...</p>	Accepted	Thank you for the updated information, we will update in the next iteration.
182	Page 49, 2.6.61: The profile dates for Erbil and Sulaimaniya <b>should be revised</b> to 'May 2015'; and that for Dahuk to 'April 2015'. Appropriate footnotes xx and xx <b>should be added</b> .	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
183	Page 49, footnotes: link access dates for all footnotes <b>should be</b> 27 October 2015	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
184	<p>Page 49, footnotes: footnote 137 <b>should be</b>:</p> <p>137 Institute of the Study of War, Control of Terrain in Iraq, <a href="http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/2014-09-17%20Control%20Zone%20Map.pdf">http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/2014-09-17%20Control%20Zone%20Map.pdf</a> accessed 27 October 2015</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration

185	<p>Page 49, footnotes: <b>insert a footnote</b> relating to the proposed new paragraph 2.6.61 see above), as follows:</p> <p>xx 'Violent protests threaten Kurdistan's stability', <i>Iraq Oil Report</i>, 12 October 2015.  <a href="http://www.iraqoilreport.com/news/violent-protests-threaten-kurdistans-stability-16706/">http://www.iraqoilreport.com/news/violent-protests-threaten-kurdistans-stability-16706/</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Accepted	We will update in the next iteration
186	<p>Page 49, footnotes: <b>insert a footnote</b> relating to the proposed new paragraph 2.6.60 see above), as follows:</p> <p>xx UNAMI/OHCHR, <i>Report on the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015</i>, June 2015.  <a href="http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf">http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_4th_POCR_eport-11Dec2014-30April2015.pdf</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes

187	<p>Page 49, footnotes: <b>insert a footnote</b> relating to 2.6.61 (see above), as follows:</p> <p>xx International Organisation for Migration, <i>Erbil Governorate Profile, May 2015</i>.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/reports/erbil-governorate-profile-may-2015">http://iomiraq.net/reports/erbil-governorate-profile-may-2015</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p> <p>xx International Organisation for Migration, <i>Dahuk Governorate Profile, April 2015</i>.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/reports/dahuk-governorate-profile-april-2015-0">http://iomiraq.net/reports/dahuk-governorate-profile-april-2015-0</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p> <p>xx International Organisation for Migration, <i>Sulaymaniya Governorate Profile, May 2015</i>.  <a href="http://iomiraq.net/reports/sulaymaniyah-governorate-profile-may-2015">http://iomiraq.net/reports/sulaymaniyah-governorate-profile-may-2015</a>  Accessed 27 October 2015.</p>	Partially Accepted	We will add the new footnote but it is not our style to use italics within footnotes
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