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## Qatari Emir Pushes for Arab Invasion of Syria

By Jason Ditz

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Speaking today at the UN General Assembly, Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani [proposed](#) an Arab coalition invasion force to enter Syria and “stop the bloodshed,” citing the 1970’s Lebanese force as a guideline. He insisted the nations have a “military duty” to intervene.

This was an extremely poor example because the Arab Deterrent Force (ADF), deployed to Lebanon at the onset of their bloody civil war, ended up staying for a solid seven years, morphing into a Syrian military occupation of northern Lebanon, which continued for decades.

And even then, the Lebanese Civil War was not over. The ADF officially left in 1982 but the war continued off and on through the rest of the 1980s before finally reaching a political settlement long after the 20,000-strong force left.

The Qatari government, as with the rest of the governments in the GCC, back the rebels against the Assad government, and many are keen to insinuate themselves militarily to install the Sunni rebels in the country. Russia and China, both allies of Assad, would oppose any foreign invasions.