Please cite as: EUAA, '2.1.1. Actors involved and territorial control' in *Sudan: Security Situation*, October 2026.

2.1.1. Actors involved and territorial control

During the reference period, the SAF gained control of the entire Khartoum state by late May 2025 and retained it thereafter.491

The SAF offensive on Khartoum492 involved the SAF and aligned forces, including Popular Resistance,493 the Darfur Joint Forces, the Sudan Shield Forces (SSF), and other militias.494 Another significant SAF-aligned force was the Islamist-linked Al-Baraa Bin Malik Brigade. The militia played a key role in the battle for Khartoum,495 but has repeatedly resisted integration into SAF command structures.496 As of July 2026, an article by AFP mentions the presence of Darfur Joint Forces and Al-Baraa Bin Malik Brigade fighters in Khartoum state.497 Neighbourhood defence units have also emerged across Khartoum and were reportedly operating increasingly outside SAF oversight.498 The SAF reportedly sought to restore order in Khartoum since retaking the capital; however, sporadic shootings have continued amid the widespread presence of arms and armed groups.499

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