Please cite as: EUAA, '2.17.1. Actors involved and territorial control' in *Sudan: Security Situation*, October 2026.

2.17.1. Actors involved and territorial control

During the reference period, territorial control maps depicted Kassala state as continuously under SAF control.[1234] A map provided by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies showed Kassala state under complete control of the SAF as of the start of July 2026 along with the presence of allied armed groups such as the Sudan Shield Forces (SSF), the Sudanese Popular Resistance/*Mustanfareen*, the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) and the Al-Baraa Bin Malik Brigade.[1235] Furthermore, several tribal militias allied with the SAF reportedly operated in Red Sea, Gedaref and Kassala states.[1236] In February 2026, five SAF-allied armed groups, among them the Beja Congress, the East Sudan Liberation Movement and the National Movement for Justice and Development in East Sudan announced their alliance called Federal Alliance of Eastern Sudan Forces in Kassala city.[1237] Some of these groups reportedly returned from Eritrea where they had received military training.[1238]

- [1234]

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