

# Syria 'Concerns' Moscow

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**The  Moscow Times**

The Foreign Ministry is "deeply concerned" by reports that each side in the Syrian conflict is enlisting and arming Palestinian refugees and said they should be kept out of the fighting. Syria hosts more than 500,000 Palestinian refugees, according to United Nations figures.

"We call for the participants of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic to show restraint and do all possible for Palestinian refugees not to be dragged into the Syrian confrontation and for places of their residence not to become objects of hostility," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement Friday.

State-run Russia Today television, meanwhile, aired an interview Friday with Syrian President Bashar Assad, who said he would "live and die" in Syria and warned that any Western invasion to topple him would have catastrophic consequences for the Middle East and beyond.

*(Reuters)*

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