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[www.afgazad.com](http://www.afgazad.com)

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## Russia deploys more advanced air superiority jets to Syria

2/1/2016



**Russian Sukhoi Su-24 bomber in Syrian province of Latakia.**

Russia has deployed at least four highly advanced state-of-the-art super maneuverable Su-35 Flanker multi-role fighter jets to its air base in Syria's western coastal province of Latakia.

While sporting both an air-to-air and air-to-ground missile and bombing capability the Flanker is first and foremost an air superiority fighter. And the Su-35 is the most advanced versions of these jets Russia has in its arsenal. It has already deployed at least four Su-30 jets, an earlier variant of the Su-35, to Syria.

Following Turkey's downing of a Russian Su-24 bomber last November 24 Russia has begun to escort its bombers (especially its Su-24's and Su-25's, which have no real ability to defend themselves against other aircraft) with such fighters, when they carry out bombing runs. Especially the ones near the Turkish border, which was what the Su-24 shot down by Turkey last year was doing.

This latest deployment will therefore augment Russia's growing fleet of air superiority fighters which, when escorting the bombers, will further deter the Turkish Air Force from trying to hinder Russian bombing runs along its border.

This deployment comes after Ankara warned Moscow over its latest violation of Turkish airspace on Friday.