



CONFRONTING ISIS

1 x 115, 2 x 54 HD



PBS
INTERNATIONAL

CONFRONTING ISIS

1 x 115, 2 x 54 HD

CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President
PBS International
10 Guest Street
Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: 617-300-3893
FAX: 617-779-7900

jtkoch@pbs.org
pbsinternational.org

In *Confronting ISIS*, FRONTLINE correspondent Martin Smith travels to five countries with key roles in the anti-ISIS fight—Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Turkey—to report on successes, failures and challenges as ISIS loses ground in the region but strikes out with attacks abroad.

Beginning with the fall of Mosul to ISIS in 2014, this two-hour special deeply examines two years of American-led efforts to defeat ISIS, taking viewers step-by-step through a number of initiatives involving different regional players.

Smith gains rare access across the region and beyond. He travels with one of Iraq's Shia militia groups, as well as Kurdish Peshmerga fighters who are less than a mile from ISIS. He also meets the father of a Jordanian pilot who was burned to death by ISIS, and sits down for candid interviews with leaders including current and former U.S. Secretaries of Defense Ashton Carter and Chuck Hagel, embattled Iraqi president Haider al-Abadi, and Saudi Arabia's controversial Grand Mufti, Abdul Aziz Sheikh.

In the process, he finds a fundamental problem: At times, the White House's narrow focus on defeating ISIS hasn't always aligned with the top issues faced by America's allies—from how to deal with Bashar al-Assad in Syria, to Saudi Arabia's fears about Iran, to the war in Yemen, to the Kurdish-Turkish conflict.

Confronting ISIS also explores tension between the Obama White House and the Pentagon about how best to address the ISIS threat, and raises tough questions about the shape of the Middle East once ISIS is defeated.

170736



CREDITS

Writer & Producer: Martin Smith

Producer: Linda Hirsch

Executive Producer for FRONTLINE: Raney Aronson-Rath

Images: Courtesy of FRONTLINE



PBS.
INTERNATIONAL