

# News story: Foreign Office Minister congratulates Lebanon on its Independence Day



Minister of State for the Middle East at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Alistair Burt said:

The UK was among the first countries to recognise Lebanon's independence 75 years ago, and remains a staunch supporter of its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The relationship between our two countries has never been stronger. The UK is proud of our partnership with Lebanon, as we work together to build strong, legitimate state institutions, secure Lebanon's borders, support Lebanon with its refugee crisis, and boost our nations' prosperity.

The UK looks forward to the early formation of a Lebanese government, a government with which the UK can continue to strengthen its partnership. On behalf of Her Majesty's Government I am delighted to send my congratulations to President Aoun, Prime Minister-designate Hariri, Parliamentary Speaker Berri, and the Lebanese people as they mark this momentous anniversary.

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