

Le Drian's Mission to Lebanon



This photo by: Nabil Ismail (L'Orient-Le Jour)

Background

12th Electoral Session

On 14 June, 2023, the 12th presidential electoral session fails to elect a new president, with 59 votes in favor of Azour and 51 votes for Frangieh. The deadlocks persists after the Hezbollah MPs and allies left at the end of the first round causing a loss in quorum. Meanwhile, a visit by Le Drian is scheduled for next Wednesday 21 June.

Latest Updates

Le Drian from Bkerki

Jean-Yves Le Drian, the special envoy for Lebanon, asserted on Thursday 22 June, from Bkerki, that he is currently engaged in a mission of constructive dialogue with Lebanese officials in order to get out of the political deadlock immediately. Le Drian has already met with Berri, Geagea, Bassil Mikati and Patriarch Bechara Rai.

Expert Analysis

Decades of Unsuccessful Mediations

For decades, Lebanon hosts emissaries from major powers to assess local politics and influence the situation, often without significant success. It remains to be seen how "effective" this mediation will be, especially since France has not yet clearly dropped Frangieh's nomination.



Further readings

1. Report: Le Drian discussed 'centrist' candidates with Lebanese leaders (Naharnet)
2. Le Drian en "mission de concertation" pour aider le Liban à "sortir immédiatement du blocage politique"(OLJ)