



EUROPEAN UNION
ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION

LEBANON PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
15 MAY 2022



EU EOM LEBANON 2022 MEDIA COVERAGE

FIRST CO's VISIT, FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE, LTOs' DEPLOYMENT
4 to 14 April 2022

Monday 4 April 2022: first articles about the mission

L'Orient Today

EU announces elections observation mission for Lebanon

The European Union announced Monday the establishment of its Electoral Observation Mission, which will be responsible for monitoring the upcoming parliamentary elections.

"In response to an invitation from the Interior Ministry, the European Union has deployed an Electoral Observation Mission in Lebanon to monitor the parliamentary elections scheduled for May 15, 2022," said the EU delegation in a statement sent to L'Orient Today. This delegation is composed of ten electoral experts to cover the different aspects of the process."

The parliamentary elections are an essential demand of the international community for Lebanon. On several occasions, the UN, the European Union and the Arab League, have called for the holding of these elections. The secretary-general of the Arab League, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, said during a visit to Beirut last March that the pan-Arab organization was "ready to supervise the elections."

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Press Club Brussels

Lebanon: the European Union deploys an Election Observation Mission

In response to the invitation by the Lebanese Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, the European Union has decided to deploy an EU Election Observation Mission to observe the parliamentary elections scheduled on 15 May 2022.

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Josep Borrell has appointed György Hölvényi, Member of the European Parliament, as Chief Observer of the Mission.

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Al Yawn el Sabe3

The European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon begins its work in Beirut

The European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon announced the official start of the mission's work, after the mission's chief observer, Member of the European Parliament, George Holvini, arrived in Lebanon yesterday, Wednesday, at the start of a six-day visit.

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Thursday 7 April: first day of the CO's visit

A Liwaa Newspaper

The EU EOM to Lebanon visits Baabda and Serail

The EU EOM Chief Observer Georgy Holveny visited Baabda Palace yesterday with members of the delegation, where he met with President of the Republic, General Michel Aoun, who confirmed Lebanon's welcoming of the European Union's observation of the parliamentary elections on May 15th, similar to what happened in the 2005 and 2009 elections. and 2018."

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Ici Beyrouth

Deux cents membres de la mission européenne surveilleront le scrutin.

Le chef de l'État Michel Aoun a affirmé jeudi que "les mesures ont été prises pour que le scrutin de 2022 se tienne dans les délais". Le chef de l'État, qui a reçu le chef de la mission d'observation électorale de l'Union européenne György Hölvényi, en visite officielle au Liban, a assuré que "les efforts se poursuivent pour résoudre tous les problèmes qui pourraient entraver cette échéance constitutionnelle malgré les conditions économique et financières que connaît le pays".

Soulignant que les mégacentres auraient pu contribuer à résoudre une partie de ces problèmes, notamment à l'ombre de la crise, le président a fait remarquer que "cela pourrait se traduire par une moindre affluence aux bureaux de vote". Il a en outre appelé à renforcer la supervision du financement des campagnes électorales et à permettre à la commission de supervision des élections d'accomplir son rôle.

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National News Agency – NNA

EU EOM Chief Observer meets with President Aoun, Prime Minister Mikati and other high officials of the Lebanese State

During his first day of visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Mr. György Hölvényi met today the Lebanese President Michel Aoun at the Presidential Palace.

Mr. Hölvényi, thanked President Aoun for Lebanon's agreement on a EU EOM that would observe the elections: "The EU EOM is a demonstration of the European Union's commitment to democracy and peace in Lebanon: the deployment of the EU EOM to observe the parliamentary elections scheduled on 15 May 2022 reflects the EU's continued commitment to support credible, transparent and inclusive elections in Lebanon", he said.

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Lebanese presidency website

The President received the Head of the EU Election Observation Mission:

"Arrangements have been made for the elections to be held on time and a record number of candidates were observed, including 155 women".

President Aoun stressed the need of strengthening the supervision of the financing of electoral campaigns, and not adopting the MegaCenter may reflect a decline in the turnout of the polls.

Holvini: "About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and members of the delegation will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries".

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Annahar Newspaper

An EU EOM to monitor the elections... Aoun: to strengthen observation on the financing of the of campaigns

President of the Republic, Michel Aoun, announced, "Lebanon welcomes the European Union's election observation mission to monitor the parliamentary elections on May 15th."

"All arrangements have been made for the elections to be held on time in an atmosphere of freedom, democracy and transparency, noting that the number of candidates reached A record number, as well as the number of lists that have been registered, among the candidates are 155 women, and this number is being recorded for the first time."

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AD Diyar newspaper

The EU EOM Lebanon in Beirut. The President of the Republic: Arrangements have been made to make the elections on time... and a record number of candidates

Holvenyi: We emphasized on the principle of neutrality... and we will continue our tours to introduce our mission

Chief Observer thanked President Aoun for Lebanon's agreement that a European Union mission would monitor the elections, pointing out that "about 200 observers will undertake this task with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and they will start their work before the election date and continue beyond, and their mission will include all Lebanese regions".

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Asharq Al Awsat Newspaper

200 European observers for the Lebanese elections with "transparency and impartiality"

EU EOM Chief Observer announced that "about 200 observers will undertake this task with professionalism, transparency and impartiality," pointing out that "their mission will include all Lebanese regions, and they will draw up a detailed report on their observations, as happened in the last election cycle."

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NNA English

Mikati welcomes chief observer of EU election observation mission, regrets "deliberate negativity" to hinder Lebanon's recovery

Later during the day, the Prime Minister welcomed the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM), Mr. György Hölvényi.

"We had a long discussion about the mechanism of monitoring the upcoming parliamentary elections," Hölvényi said on emerging.

"I briefed him [Mikati] on the main objective of the EU EOM, which is to accomplish the task of following up and monitoring the course of the electoral process (...). During the meeting, we also stressed the paramount importance of adopting of the principle of impartiality, as well as commitment to monitoring the electoral process without any meddling," Hölvényi added.

"We emphasized dialogue in any kind of discourse, and we were drawn to the advantage of openness among the different segments of Lebanese society," Hölvényi concluded.

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LBCI news (TV)

EU chief electoral observer meets with President Aoun

Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission Lebanon 2022 Gyorgy Holvenyi met on Thursday with President Michel Aoun, whereby he stressed that around 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon in a professional, transparent and impartial manner, and that members of the mission will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries.

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Lebanese Forces Website

Hölvényi: The EU EOM does not interfere in internal affairs

During the first day of visit the EU EOM Chief Observer met with the President, the Prime Minister and other high officials of the Lebanese state. During his first day of visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Mr. György Hölvényi met today the Lebanese President Michel Aoun at the Presidential Palace.

[Click here](#)

Assawte News

Hölvényi thanked Presidents Aoun and Mikati and met Mawlawi and the Election Supervision Committee

The President of the Lebanese Republic, Michel Aoun, met the head of the European Union's observer mission, Georges Holveny, who thanked him for Lebanon's agreement to allow an EU mission to monitor the elections.

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VDL news (radio)

EU EOM Chief Observer: About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and members of the mission will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries.

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Lebanon 24 News Website

Mawlawi discussed with EU EOM Chief Observer the preparations of the elections

The minister of Interior and municipalities Bassam Mawlawi received today the EU EOM Chief observer Georges Holveny and discussed the preparations for the upcoming parliamentary elections and the ministry's readiness.

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Al Araby TV

Parliamentary elections in Lebanon under the watchful eye of 200 international observers

During the first day of visit the EU EOM Chief Observer met with the President, the Prime Minister and other high officials of the Lebanese state

During his first day of visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Mr. György Hölvényi met today the Lebanese President Michel Aoun at the Presidential Palace.

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LBCI News report on TV

An observation mission in Lebanon to observe the elections

Since the electoral cycles of 2005, 2009 and 2018, the European Union has been observing Lebanon's parliamentary elections, in response to the request of the Lebanese authorities.

About a month away from the 2022 elections, this is the fourth time that the European Union deploys an election observation mission in Lebanon, at the invitation of the Minister of Interior and Municipalities.

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Lebanese Forces News Website

Aoun: To strengthen supervision of the financing of electoral campaigns

The President of the Republic, Michel Aoun, met today, Thursday, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Member of the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini.

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Al Jadeed TV

President Aoun receives the Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission

Hölvényi: About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and members of the mission will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries

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AL Ghad TV

Hölvényi: About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon (TV REPORT)

[Youtube link](#)

Al Markazia News Website

The EU EOM is in Beirut... Aoun: It will take place on time and a record number of candidates

Chief Observer thanked President Aoun for Lebanon's agreement that a European Union mission would monitor the elections, pointing out that "about 200 observers will undertake this task with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and they will start their work before the election date and continue beyond, and their mission will include all Lebanese regions, and they will also draw up a report. Detailed about their observations, as happened in the last election cycle. He pointed out that "members of the mission will also monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries, according to the same standards and rules that will be applied in Lebanon."

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El Nashra

President Aoun met EU EOM Chief Observer today

President of the Republic, Michel Aoun, announced that Lebanon welcomes the European Union's observation of the parliamentary elections on May 15, similar to what happened in the elections of 2005, 2009 and 2018.

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Tayyar News Website

President Aoun receives the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission

President said that arrangements have been made to hold the elections on time, and to strengthen supervision of the financing of electoral campaigns.

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Kataeb News Website

EU EOM visiting high officials in Lebanon

This morning, the European Union Election Observation Mission toured Lebanon officials, where it met with President Michel Aoun and Prime Minister Najib Mikati. This visit comes a month and a week before the parliamentary elections scheduled for May 15th.

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Lebanon Debate News Website

Aoun fears the absence of the "Megacenter"

President of the Republic, Michel Aoun, received today, Thursday, the Chief observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Jorge Holveny, at Baabda Palace.

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Lebanon Files

Holvini from Baabda: About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon

The President of the Republic, Michel Aoun, received the Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission. He said, "Arrangements have been made to hold the elections on time, and to strengthen the supervision of the financing of electoral campaigns, and the failure to adopt the MegaCenter may reflect a decline in the turnout of the polls.

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Al Modon Newspaper

Aoun complains to the European mission about the overthrow of the Megacentre Parliament

An intense diplomatic movement is taking place in Lebanese official headquarters, a month away from the parliamentary elections. Parallel to the International Monetary Fund delegation's tour of the Lebanese forces, to discuss the possibility of signing a preliminary framework agreement, under which Lebanon will abide by the conditions that must be approved by the government and Parliament, to begin developing the details of the plan.. International visits of interest in the electoral issue continue, including the visit of the European Union mission to monitor The elections, which toured the officials.

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Al Joumhouria

A delegation of Lebanese forces met the Chief of the European Election Observation Mission

A delegation from the "Lebanese Forces" party met in Maarab, the chief of the European Election Observation Mission, MEP Giorgi Holvini, at the head of a delegation from the mission.

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Al Markazia

A delegation of Lebanese forces met the Chief of the European Election Observation Mission

A delegation from the "Lebanese Forces" party, which included the candidate for the Orthodox seat in Beirut's First District, met with former Deputy Prime Minister Ghassan Hasbani, the candidate for the Catholic seat in Zahle, MP George Akis, head of the party's external relations apparatus, former Minister Richard Koyoumjian, Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Wissam Raji and head of the party's International Relations Office Elsie Aweys, with the head of the European Election Observation Mission, MEP Giorgi Holvini, at the head of a delegation from the mission, which included Deputy Head of Mission Jaroslav Domansky, political analyst Fahram Abadjian, media officer Alessandro Gouri and assistant political analyst Joe Hamoura, at the party's headquarters in Maarab, and the two sides discussed the latest electoral developments.

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Al Sharq

Lebanon welcomes the European Union's observation of the parliamentary elections

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun announced his country's welcome to the European Union's monitoring of the parliamentary elections to be held on May 15, similar to what happened in the 2005, 2009 and 2018 elections.

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Annahar Newspaper

Mikati met with the European Union Election Observation Mission: It was as if what was required was to prevent the country from rising

Mikati met with the European Union Parliamentary Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, headed by Chief Observer Giorgi Holvi.

After the meeting, Holvevni said: "We have just met Dolmat Mikati, with whom we had a long discussion about the mechanism of observing the upcoming parliamentary elections, and I presented to him the main objective of the mission of the European Union mission. We are here at the invitation of the Lebanese authorities, and the members of the observer mission have arrived in Lebanon." On March 27, it will remain until June 6 after completing the task of following up and monitoring the course of the electoral process, knowing that this mission consists of about 200 observers and experts.

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Sawt Beirut International (SBI)

The European Union Election Observation Team is in Beirut: “About 200 observers will take over the task”

Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, European Parliament Member, Georgi Holvini, announced from Baabda that about 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and members of the mission will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries.

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Al Mayadeen

Hölvényi: About 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon

Lebanese President General Michel Aoun announced his country's welcome to the European Union's monitoring of the parliamentary elections to be held on May 15, similar to what happened in the 2005, 2009 and 2018 elections.

Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, European Parliament Member, Georgi Holvini, announced from Baabda that about 200 observers will monitor the elections in Lebanon with professionalism, transparency and impartiality, and members of the mission will monitor the electoral process in a number of European countries.

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AdDiyar

The logistical preparations for the elections have been completed... and the pioneers of observers in Beirut

More than one political party is surprised, how some warn of the possibility of postponing the parliamentary elections, when there is only one month left until the holding of them, in which the logistical preparations, and everything related to this entitlement have become almost completed, and it is reported, according to the information, that financial transfers have taken place. In the past hours, to the Lebanese embassies abroad, in order to complete the electoral process in the countries of diaspora, in parallel with registering a case of anticipation for the arrival of missions from the United Nations and the Arab League, and from human rights and constitutional organizations, who will arrive successively in Lebanon to accompany and supervise the integrity and conduct of the electoral process..

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Friday 8 April: second day of the CO's visit

National News Agency

EU EOM Chief Observer started to meet political parties and civic society organisations

After visiting Lebanese high officials yesterday, EU EOM Chief Observer Mr. György Hölvény started to meet political parties and civic society organisations.

He discussed the parliamentary elections with representatives of the Lebanese Forces Party in Meerab, and he reiterated on the importance of the mission in helping to reinforce the democratic process in Lebanon. Today in Tripoli, Mr. Hölvény met former Lebanese MP and former Deputy Chairman of the Future movement Mustafa Allouch and in Batroun he discussed with “Shamaluna” coalition candidates about the importance of the EU observation mission during the parliamentary election and how it will contribute to the stability of the country.

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Al Jadeed TV

The "Chief Observer of the European Union" meets with the "Forces", Alloush, "Shamalna" and Associations: To further strengthen the electoral process in the country

The European Union Delegation to Lebanon announced in a statement that "the Chief Observer of the European Union, Head of the European Union's Observer Mission, Georges Holvini, after his meetings with the Lebanese authorities yesterday, started today his tour of political parties and civil society organizations.

After he discussed the electoral process with representatives of the "Lebanese Forces" party, Holvini stressed "the importance of the mission in enhancing confidence and strengthening the electoral process further in the country."

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Al Liwaa

The "transitional phase" after May 15: Distribution of commitments and understanding on an executive mechanism A broad welcome for the return of the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait... and diplomatic formations as a pressure card in the elections

In the context of following up the preparations for the elections, the European Union mission in Lebanon announced, in a statement, that "the chief observer of the European Union, head of the Union's observer mission, George Holvini, after his meetings with the Lebanese authorities yesterday, started his tour of political parties and civil society organizations."

She pointed out that after he discussed the conduct of the electoral process with representatives of the "Lebanese Forces" party, Holvini stressed "the mission's importance in enhancing confidence and strengthening the electoral process further in the country." He met with Alloush, and continued his tour to Batroun, where he met the "Shamalna" coalition, stressing "the mission's importance in these elections, which will contribute to the stability of the country."

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Saturday 9 April: third day of the CO's visit

Aljournhouria Newspaper

Mufti Qabalan: The electoral law is sectarian rather than national

The excellent Jaafari Mufti Sheikh Ahmed Qabalan received, in his office in Dar Al-Ifta Al-Jaafari, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Member of the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini, who placed him in an atmosphere of preparation for the parliamentary elections to be held.

From his part, Holvini said: "It was a long conversation with His Eminence Sheikh Ahmed Qabalan regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections, and we are here in response to an invitation from the Lebanese Ministry of Interior. The mission arrived on March 27 and will remain until June 6, with the mission of monitoring and translating the commitment of the European Union.

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Assawte News Website

Continuous tour of the chief observer of the European Union to various interlocutors

On the third day of his visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union, Mr. Georges Holvigny, met the Lebanese authorities and parties as well as the clergy and civil society representatives. Mr. Holvini also continued his visit to Beirut and met with representatives of the "Lebanese Phalange Party" at their summer headquarters: former Minister Alain Hakim and members Michel Abou Abdullah and Espras Rizk. The next parliamentary elections scheduled for May 15 were discussed.

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Kataeb news online

The delegation of the European Election Observation Mission in Saifi

A delegation from the Lebanese Phalange Party met the head of the European Election Observation Mission, MEP Georgi Holvini, at the head of a delegation from the mission.

The meeting was attended by the party member of the Phalange Political Bureau, former minister Alan Hakim, head of the Foreign Relations Agency, Dr. George Abi Abdullah, and Esperance Rizk from the Elections Department.

The research dealt with the electoral process in its details, and the Kataeb Party raised its concerns on more than one level. First, the law itself, as it was detailed on measuring the system and Hezbollah, and secondly, the authority's control over the joints of institutions and administrations, enabling them to provide what is known as electoral services to entice voters, in addition to the fear of intimidation operations that could be practiced in more than one region to prevent the Lebanese from casting their votes freely. .

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Al Markaziah

Continuous tour of the chief observer of the European Union to various interlocutors

On the third day of his visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union, Mr. Georges Holveny, met the Lebanese authorities and parties, as well as religious leaders and representatives of civil society.

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Daily Beirut

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MTV Lebanon News

Mufti Qabalan receives the Chief of the election observation mission: The electoral law is sectarian rather than national.

The excellent Jaafari Mufti Sheikh Ahmed Qabalan received, in his office in Dar Al-Ifta Al-Jaafari, the Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Member of the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini, who placed him in an atmosphere of preparation for the parliamentary elections to be held.

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Lebanon Files

Qablan while receiving Holvini: The electoral law is more sectarian than national, but it is the best possible

The excellent Jaafari Mufti Sheikh Ahmed Qabalan received, in his office in Dar Al-Ifta Al-Jaafari, the Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Member of the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini, who placed him in an atmosphere of preparation for the parliamentary elections to be held.

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National News Agency

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El Nashra

Qabalan: Voting is the greatest opportunity for political renewal, and there is no salvation for Lebanon except by getting rid of political sectarianism and establishing a state of citizenship.

The excellent Jaafari Mufti Sheikh Ahmed Qabalan stressed, during his meeting in his office in Dar Al-Ifta Al-Jaafari, Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission, Member of the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini, "the necessity of holding the parliamentary elections on time." For his part, Holvini explained after the meeting, "We are here in response to an invitation from the Lebanese Ministry of Interior. The mission arrived on March 27 and will remain until June 6, with the mission of monitoring and translating the commitment of the European Union. We are here in Lebanon, and our mission will be neutral and independent in the monitoring mission." without any interference in the voting process.

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Asharq Al Awsat

200 EU observers to observe the election with “transparency and impartiality”

The Chief of the European Union mission to observe the Lebanese elections, Georgi Holvini, announced that "about 200 observers will undertake this task with professionalism, transparency and impartiality," pointing out that "their mission will include all Lebanese regions, and they will draw up a detailed report on their observations, as happened in the last election cycle."

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Anbaa Online

The EU's chief observer continues his tour in Lebanon

On the third day of his visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union, Mr. Georges Holveny, met the Lebanese authorities and parties, as well as religious leaders and representatives of civil society. Mr. Holvini also continued his visit to Beirut and met with representatives of the "Lebanese Kataeb" party at their headquarters in Saifi: former Minister Alain Hakim and members Michel Abou Abdallah and Isbras Rizk, and discussed the upcoming parliamentary elections scheduled for May 15.

[Click here](#)

Al Jadeed

The delegation of the European Election Observation Mission visits the Kataeb Headquarters in Saifi

A delegation from the Lebanese Phalange Party met the head of the European Election Observation Mission, MEP Georgi Holvini, at the head of a delegation from the mission. The meeting was attended by the party member of the Phalange Political Bureau, former Minister Alan Hakim, head of the Foreign Relations Agency, Dr. George Abi Abdallah, and Esperance Rizk from the Elections Department. The research dealt with the electoral process in its details, and the Kataeb Party raised its concerns on more than one level. First, the law itself, as it was detailed on measuring the system and Hezbollah, and secondly, the authority's control over the joints of institutions and administrations, enabling them to provide what is known as electoral services to entice voters, in addition to the fear of intimidation operations that could be practiced in more than one region to prevent the Lebanese from casting their votes freely. [Click here](#)

Beirut News

The chief observer of the European Union continues his tour in Lebanon. Who did he meet recently?

On the third day of his visit to Lebanon, the Chief Observer of the European Union, Mr. Georges Holvini, met the Lebanese authorities and parties, as well as the clergy and representatives of civil society. Hakim and members Michel Abu Abdullah and Isbras Rizk, and discussed the upcoming parliamentary elections scheduled for May 15.

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Al Hadeel News

The chief observer of the European Union continues his tour in Lebanon. Who did he meet recently?

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El Syassah

EU Chief Observer: The elections will contribute to the stability of the country

The European Union Mission in Lebanon announced that "the Chief Observer to the European Union, Head of the Union's Observer Mission, Georges Holvini, after his meetings with the Lebanese authorities, began his tour of political parties and civil society organizations.

After he discussed the electoral process with representatives of the "Lebanese Forces" party, Holvini stressed "the importance of the mission in enhancing confidence and strengthening the electoral process further in the country."

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Sunday 10 April: fourth day of the CO's visit

Sawt Beirut International/ SBI

Abi El Mona: For massive participation in the elections

Sheikh Al-Aql of the Unitarian Druze community, Dr. Sami Abi Al-Muna, stressed, while receiving in his house in Chania, the delegation of the EU EOM headed by George Holvini, on "respect for the constitutional requirements and the completion of the expected parliamentary elections, in a manner that serves the building of a state of truth, justice, equality, preservation of institutions and sovereignty and the protection of history." And all the principles on which the state of Lebanon was established".

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MTV news (TV)

EU EOM chief observer pursues his tour to religious leaders, political parties, heads of municipalities

In line with his tour to political parties, EU electoral observation mission to Lebanon, Chief Observer Mr. György Hölvényi, visited on Sunday the head of Hezbollah's Loyalty to the Resistance Bloc Mohammad Raad to discuss the upcoming parliamentary elections, he also met with Head of Druze Unitarian Community Sheikh Sami Abou El Mona.

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National News Agency

EU EOM Chief Observer pursues his tour to religious leaders, political parties and heads of municipalities

In line with his tour to political parties, EU electoral observation mission to Lebanon Chief Observer Mr. György Hölvényi visited the head of Hezbollah's "Loyalty to the Resistance" Bloc Mohamad Raad today to discuss the upcoming parliamentary elections, he also met with Head of Druze Unitarian Community Sheikh Sami Abou El Mona. Mr. Hölvényi also met with the President of the Municipality of Tyre Hassan Dbouq. He concluded his day in Bkerke to discuss with Maronite Patriarch Bechara al-Rai on the importance of the EU EOM Lebanon mission in the upcoming elections and the upcoming deployment of observers on Monday.

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El Nashra

Abi Al-Muna met with the European Elections Observation Mission: for massive participation and the choice of those who safeguard the homeland and its Arab affiliation

Sheikh Al-Aql stressed to the Unitarian Druze Sami Abi Al-Muna, during his reception at his home in Chania, the delegation of the European Union mission to monitor the parliamentary elections headed by George Holvini, on "respecting the constitutional requirements and achieving the expected parliamentary elections, in the service of building a state." Truth, justice, equality, preserving institutions and sovereignty, protecting history and all the principles on which the state of Lebanon was founded." The station is not constitutionally separate from the entitlement to elect a new president.

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Al hadath 24

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Al Joumhouria

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Lebanese Forces News website

Raii meets Bukhari

On Sunday, Al-Raii met a delegation from the European Union's election monitoring mission in Lebanon.

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Mouwahidoun Druze

Abi Al-Muna met with the European Elections Observation Mission

Sheikh Al-Aql stressed to the Unitarian Druze Sami Abi Al-Muna, during his reception at his home in Chania, the delegation of the European Union mission to monitor the parliamentary elections headed by George Holvini, on "respecting the constitutional requirements and achieving the expected parliamentary elections, in the service of building a state." Truth, justice, equality, preserving institutions and sovereignty, protecting history and all the principles on which the state of Lebanon was founded." The station is not constitutionally separate from the entitlement to elect a new president.

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Sawt Beirut Internation – SBI

Raii meets Bukhari

The Maronite Patriarch, Cardinal Mar Bechara Boutros Al-Rahi, received this afternoon in the patriarchal edifice in Bkerke, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Lebanon, Walid Al-Bukhari. She reiterated the Arab brothers' support for Lebanon, which it needs more than ever.

Yesterday, Al-Rahi received a delegation from the European Union mission to monitor the Lebanese elections.

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Diaspora On

Raii meets Bukhari

The Maronite Patriarch, Cardinal Mar Bechara Boutros Al-Rahi, received this afternoon in the patriarchal edifice in Bkerke, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Lebanon, Walid Al-Bukhari. She reiterated the Arab brothers' support for Lebanon, which it needs more than ever.

Yesterday, Al-Rahi received a delegation from the European Union mission to monitor the Lebanese elections.

[Click here](#)

Monday 11 April: first EU EOM's press conference

L'Orient Today

Head of EU observation mission: No indication elections will be postponed

After a six-day visit to Lebanon by a European Union electoral observation mission in preparation for May's parliamentary elections, Chief Observer Gyorgy Holvnyi said Monday that he has heard no indication that the elections will be postponed, and said officials had assured him that there will be sufficient funding to properly run and monitor the polls.

While some have continued to raise doubts as to whether the elections will go forward on schedule, Holvnyi, a member of the European Parliament from Hungary, told reporters that the stakeholders his team had interviewed so far had "expressed [their] own interest not to postpone the elections."

[Click here](#)

Shorouq News

The European Election Observation Mission in Lebanon: We operate with complete independence and do not interfere in the elections

Chief Observer affirmed that the mission is impartial and independent of European institutions, explaining that it operates completely independent of the Lebanese authorities, politicians and institutions, and that it is funded exclusively from the European Union budget.

[Click here](#)

El Balad News

Chief Observer Gyorgy Holvenyi: We operate with complete independence and do not interfere in the elections

The European Union Mission to observe the Lebanese elections confirmed that work is underway to train 30 observers in preparation for their deployment in all Lebanese regions as part of a long-term mission to monitor the Lebanese elections that will take place on the fifteenth of next May.

The mission added that the observers arrived in Lebanon last Sunday, where they received training today on services for logistical and security issues.

[Click here](#)

National News Agency NNA

Holvenyi at a press conference: The European Union mission does not judge or mandate the electoral results, but rather evaluates the electoral process

The chief observer of the European Union, George Holvini, held a press conference, this morning, at the Movenpick Hotel in Beirut, during which he explained the mission's activities, structure and methodology during its work to monitor the parliamentary elections on May 15th.

[Click here](#)

El Nashra News

Holvenyi: We are not here to interfere with the electoral process, but to assess it.

At the conclusion of his first visit to Beirut, where he met with the Lebanese authorities, political parties, clerics, civil society representatives and international organizations, the chief observer of the European Union, George Holvini, affirmed that "the European Union delegation is neutral and independent of European institutions."

[Click here](#)

Ahram News

The European Election Observation Mission in Lebanon: We operate with complete independence and do not interfere with the electoral process

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Annahar Newspaper

Chief Observer: The mission is not here to interfere with the electoral process (photos)

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ICI Beyrouth – REPORT

Chief Observer: The mission is not here to interfere with the electoral process (photos)

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Associated Press

EU election mission to begin deploying observers in Lebanon

A delegation from the European Union election observers on Monday wrapped up a six-day visit to Lebanon during which they discussed the deployment of observers ahead of the upcoming May 15 parliamentary elections in the crisis-hit country.

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ABC News

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The Washington Post

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News 21 Channel

EU election mission to begin deploying observers in Lebanon

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Nepal News

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Kion News Channel

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Asharq Al Awsat

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Nation World News

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Times of India

EU election mission to begin deploying observers in Lebanon

The May 15 elections will be the first in Lebanon since the country's economic meltdown began in October 2019. A massive Aug. 4, 2020 explosion in Beirut's port that killed more than 200 people, injured over 6,000 and caused wide damage in the Lebanese capital, precipitated the country's crisis.

[Click here](#)

My North West

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Times of Truth

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[Click here](#)

Monday 11 April: CO's last meeting

Tayyar.org

Bassil meets with the European Election Observation Mission: Violation of the law has become clear, especially with regard to the cost of electoral campaigning.

The President of the Free Patriotic Movement, Minister Gebran Bassil, in the presence of Vice President for Administrative Affairs Martin Ketili and Director of his office Ghassan Houry, will receive the European Election Observation Mission, which explained to him the nature of its mission and working conditions. Minister Bassil welcomed her work, and demanded that she emulate the previous experiences of the mission, where she failed to highlight the deficiencies within the framework of the election monitoring process, its freedom and integrity, especially with regard to electoral spending.

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OTV

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Akhbar AL Yawm

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National News Agency – NNA

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Wednesday 14 April: LTOs' deployment

National News Agency

EU EOM deploys 30 long-term observers to all regions of Lebanon on Thursday

The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) in Lebanon will be holding an event on Thursday 14 April 2022 at 9:20 am at the main entrance of Movenpick Hotel, during which the 30 long-term observers will be deployed to all regions of Lebanon.

During the event, the Deputy Chief Observer Jarek Domański will make a short statement to the press and then the observers will load their equipment to their cars and they will then leave in a convoy from the hotel towards their destinations, where they will be based until after the elections.

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LBCI TV news report

Election Observation has begun!

EU EOM deploys 30 long-term observers to all regions of Lebanon

[Click here](#)

Al Kalima Online

EU EOM deploys its 30 long-term observers to all regions of Lebanon

The European Union Election Observation Mission Lebanon issued the following statement on Thursday:

Today the EU EOM deployed its 30 long-term observers to all regions of Lebanon

The 30 long-term observers (LTOs) of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) were deployed today in teams of two to all regions of Lebanon.

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MTV News

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Lebanon News Gazette

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[Click here](#)

L'Orient le Jour

Une trentaine d'observateurs de le l'UE déployés au Liban

Trente Observateurs de long terme (OLT) de la Mission d'observation électorale de l'Union européenne (MOE UE) ont été déployés par équipes de deux dans toutes les régions du Liban, a annoncé la MOE UE dans un communiqué diffusé jeudi.

Les observateurs sont arrivés à Beyrouth le 10 avril et ont reçu une formation de trois jours, d'abord sur les questions de logistique, de santé et de sécurité, puis sur le contexte politique et électoral, le cadre juridique, les médias traditionnels et les médias sociaux, indique le communiqué. Une fois sur le terrain, ils rencontreront tous les acteurs impliqués dans le processus électoral tels que les candidats et les institutions en charge des élections, ainsi que les représentants de la société civile.

[Click here](#)

Sawt Beirut International

Deployment of 30 observers from the European Union Delegation to Lebanon for the elections

European Union Deputy Chief of Observers, Yarik Dominsky, revealed that 30 observers have been deployed in all Lebanese regions, where they will monitor the electoral process until the end of the elections. And from their areas, they will send their reports to the analysts in the mission in Beirut.”

Dominsky noted that “the methodology of the European Union mission is based on our direct observation. For this reason, we have deployed our observers on a long-term assignment from now, a month before Election Day. We want to understand the electoral process and cover all its aspects, including the logistical aspect, electoral campaigns and their financing, which is a key factor in Lebanon, in addition to the media and social networking sites.”

[Click here](#)

Sawt Beirut International – TV REPORT

Les élections sous la surveillance d'observateurs internationaux et locaux

Soixante-trois jours nous séparent de la date des élections législatives, et il est confirmé jusqu'à présent qu'elles se déroulent à temps, et en parallèle les associations spécialisées dans la surveillance des élections locales et internationales ont commencé à rejoindre les rangs afin de suivre le jour du 15 mai.

Georgie Holvini, chef de la mission d'observation des élections de l'Union européenne, a annoncé que 200 observateurs prendraient en charge la mission.

Quels sont les pouvoirs et la carte du travail de cette mission ?

En ce qui concerne les élections des expatriés, qui ont été témoins de nombreuses irrégularités et violations lors des élections de 2018, comment les régulateurs vont-ils les traiter? Il ne fait aucun doute que plusieurs irrégularités ont été surveillées avant la date des élections, y compris l'aide sociale. Quant à l'attention, elle se tourne vers le jour des élections et du grand nombre de réglementations concurrentes.

[Click here](#)

Al Modon Newspaper

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National News Agency

Dominsky: 30 EU observers in the Lebanese regions until the end of the elections

The European Union delegation announced in a statement that "30 observers from the European Union delegation were deployed today with a team of two people in all Lebanese regions," noting that "the observers arrived in Beirut on March 10 and received a three-day training that included logistical, health and security aspects. After that, Learn about political, electoral and legal frameworks, traditional media and social networking sites.

The mission noted that "the chief observer of the European Union delegation, George Holvini, said during their welcome on their arrival in Beirut that their work is essential to us.

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Assawte News

The European Union Election Observation Mission deploys its 30 observers today in the Lebanese regions.

Thirty observers of the European Union delegation were deployed with a team of two people to all Lebanese regions.

The deputy chief of European Union observers, Mr. Yarik Dominsky, said during a press conference held on the occasion of the observers’ deployment today: “Today we will deploy 30 observers in all Lebanese regions, where they will monitor the electoral process until the end of the Lebanese parliamentary elections. And from their areas, they will send their reports to the analysts in the mission in Beirut.”

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Al Kalima Online

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Tayyar.org

The European Union appoints 30 observers in the Lebanese regions until the end of the elections

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Hadath Online

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Lebanon 24

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Lebanese Forces news website

Deployment of 30 European observers to monitor the electoral process

The European Union mission clarified that "30 observers from the European Union mission were deployed today with a team of two people in all Lebanese regions," noting that "the observers arrived in Beirut on March 10 and received a three-day training that included logistical, health and security aspects. After that, they learned about political, electoral and legal frameworks, traditional media, and social media."

And she pointed out in a statement, that "the chief observer of the European Union delegation, George Holvini, said during their welcome on their arrival in Beirut that their work is essential to us, you are our ears and our eyes in the field. When they arrive in the areas designated for them, they will meet the stakeholders in the electoral process, including candidates and representatives of civil society.

[Click here](#)

IM Lebanon news

2022 elections: 30 European observers are deployed in the Lebanese regions

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LebToday News

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EFE

EU deploys observers throughout Lebanon for legislative

The observation mission of the European Union (EU) for the parliamentary elections on May 15 in Lebanon deployed this Thursday some thirty observers in the different regions of the country, where they will remain until the day of the vote to guarantee an analysis " direct" of the process.

[Click here](#)

Swiss info

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El Debate

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Mundo ao Minuto

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Hola News

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Lado.mx

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[Click here](#)

Between the two CO's visits

Friday 29 April

LBCI

The second week of the European Union mission to observe the Lebanese parliamentary elections...

The 30 EU observers completed their second week of observation in their designated areas. The EU observers met with various interlocutors related to the parliamentary elections as well as the candidates. And here are the most prominent meetings of the European Union teams for the second week in Lebanon

[Click here](#)

Saturday 30 April

NNA

Team meetings of the European Union Election Observation Mission

The European Union Parliamentary Election Observation Mission announced in a statement the program of its teams' meetings for the second week in a row, and stated: "The 30 European Union observers completed the second week of their observation in the areas assigned to them. Each team, divided into two people of different nationalities, is responsible Since its publication on April 14 from one of the 15 electoral districts in Lebanon.

[Click here](#)

Kataeb

Meetings of the European Union mission to monitor the parliamentary elections... What did you discuss?

The European Union Parliamentary Election Observation Mission announced in a statement the program of its teams' meetings for the second week in a row and stated: "The 30 European Union observers completed the second week of their observation in the areas assigned to them. Each team, divided into two people of different nationalities, has been responsible since its deployment. On April 14, for one of the 15 electoral districts in Lebanon. The European Union observers met with various interlocutors related to the parliamentary elections in addition to the candidates. During the meeting, the team learned about the role and competence of the mission as well as its neutrality and non-interference in the electoral process.

[Click here](#)

MTV

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LebElections

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[Click here](#)

**OCV, SECOND CO's VISIT, STO DEPLOYMENT, E-DAY,
PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THE PRELIMINARY STATEMENT
6 to 20 May 2022**

Friday 6 May

LBCI – TV REPORT

In Lebanon, the European Union delegation is preparing to monitor the second phase of the expatriate elections

The expatriate voting process began in a number of Arab countries, with several monitoring bodies following up on its progress. As for Lebanon, a delegation from the European Union is following up on the preparations, less than 10 days before the elections. While this mission does not monitor the electoral process today in Arab countries, it will monitor it next Sunday in 13 European countries.

What is the nature of the work of this body?

[Click here](#)

Lebanon Debate

EU ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION EXPLAINS PROCESS OF OVERSEEING OUT-OF-COUNTRY VOTING

This Sunday, 8 May, the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Lebanon 22 will deploy 16 teams of short-term observers to directly observe the Out of Country Voting, the Mission said in a statement.

"The teams, each of them composed by two persons of different nationality, will be present in 13 European countries, namely Austria, Belgium, France (three teams), Germany (two teams), Greece, The Netherlands, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland," it indicated.

[Click here](#)

OTV Lebanon

EU Election observation mission explains process of overseeing OCV voting

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[Click here](#)

Lorient Today

Voter turnout in Friday's expat voting in MENA region surpasses 2018

After the close of polls on Friday for diaspora voting in 10 countries in the region, Foreign Minister Abdallah Abou Habib said 18,225 out of 30,930 registered Lebanese expats had voted, although the results are still preliminary. Polling stations for Lebanese residents of Iran and nine Arab countries, namely Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, opened Friday morning.

Here's what we know:

[Click here](#)

NNA

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MTV news

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LBCI Lebanon

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Sawt El Mada

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Aliwaa Newspaper

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Anbaa Online

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Transparency News

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Sunday 8 May 2022

Al Joumhouria

The European Union mission is monitoring the Lebanese vote in 13 European countries...

"We deployed 16 teams to directly observe the Out of Country Voting in 13 European countries", said today the Deputy Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Jarek Domański, after his short visit to the operation room at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beirut.

"The teams are observing between 7:00 and 22:00, local times" explained Domański, "but we are observing the operations here at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and we will be also present at the counting and tabulation of the ballot boxes coming from abroad on 15 May", he added. "Let me express my gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to give us access to observe this monitoring process in their operation room".

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Independent Arabia

The DCO of the EU EOM visited the Operations Room

The Deputy European Union Election Observation Mission, Yarik Dominsky, visited the Operations Room for Election Observation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants. He pointed out that "the mission's 16 teams are in charge of monitoring the progress of the electoral process, and they are distributed over 13 European countries."

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Nidaa Al Watan

Deputy Chief Observer inspects the operation room at the ministry

"We deployed 16 teams to directly observe the Out of Country Voting in 13 European countries", said today the Deputy Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Jarek Domański, after his short visit to the operation room at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beirut.

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Annahar Newspaper

Domainski: We observe the elections in 13 European countries

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L'Orient Today

EU Elections Observation Mission deploys 16 teams to monitor voting in 13 European countries

The European Union Election Observation Mission deployed “16 teams to directly observe the Out of Country Voting in 13 European Countries,” Deputy Chief Observer Jarek Domański said Sunday after his visit to the overseas voting operation room at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beirut.

Here’s what we know:

- In addition to observing the overseas ballot “between 7:00 and 22:00 [Beirut] time,” the EU EOM is observing the monitoring process at the operation room and will “be present at the counting and tabulation of the ballot boxes coming from abroad on May 15,” Domański’s statement added.

- An assessment of the overseas ballot will be presented in a press conference on May 17, Domański said, adding that “15 teams of long-term observers have been regularly reporting from all electoral districts in Lebanon since mid-April.”

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Addiyar Newspaper

EU Deputy chief observer and Collard inspected the operation room at the ministry of foreign affairs

British Ambassador Ian Collard visited the operations room to follow up the elections of voters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants in Beirut, and met with Minister Abdullah Bou Habib.

For his part, the Deputy Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) Jarek Domański, after his short visit to the operation room at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beirut: “We deployed 16 teams to directly observe the Out of Country Voting in 13 European countries”, said today

“The teams are observing between 7:00 and 22:00, local times” explained Domański, “but we are observing the operations here at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and we will be also present at the counting and tabulation of the ballot boxes coming from abroad on 15 May”, he added. “Let me express my gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to give us access to observe this monitoring process in their operation room”.

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LBCI report

From the Ministry of Foreign Affairs... Official follow-up to expatriate elections in 48 countries

The second and final day of the expatriate elections, and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was the official follow-up of its conduct in 48 countries, through cameras transmitting the image from the polling stations, moment by moment.

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NNA

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Lebanese Forces website

EU Delegation: We have deployed 16 election monitoring teams abroad

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Lebanon Debate

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Tayyar.org

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Kataeb news website

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Akhbar Al yawm

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Hadath Online

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Al Jareeda

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OTV

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Monday 9 May

El Marada news

Suleiman Franjeh receives the head of the European Union Election Observation Mission at the head of a delegation from the mission

The head of the Marada Movement, Suleiman Franjeh, received at his residence in Bnachi, the head of the European Union Election Observation Mission, the representative in the European Parliament, Georgi Holvini, at the head of a delegation. A meeting was held in the presence of Dr. Jean Boutros. Two hundred people will monitor the elections in Lebanon, as well as a horizon tour about the upcoming presidential elections, the trends of the situation in Lebanon and the proposed plans for reforms as a consequence, in addition to the means of cooperation between Lebanon and Europe.

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Al Jadeed tv

Franjeh discussed with the European Union Election Observation Mission the parliamentary and presidential elections

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Thursday 12 May 2022

LBCI

EU EOM Lebanon22 deploys 40 observers on a short-term mission to reinforce its work on Election Day

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MTV Lebanon

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NNA Lebanon

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The head of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, Georges Holvini, said: "Today we are deploying 40 observers on a short-term mission, after they received a two-day training in Beirut. The European Union Election Observation Mission is present in Lebanon at the invitation of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities. The purpose of this mission is to accompany the Lebanese people, as friends and neighbors, in the electoral process."

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Lebanon 24

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Kataeb.org

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Mulhak

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IM Lebanon

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Lebanese Forces news website

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Ici Beyrouth report

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Grand Lebanon

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Election Day – 15 May 2022

Akhbar Al yawm English

Head of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon: About 170 observers have been deployed throughout the country

At the end of a visit to a polling centre in Beirut this early afternoon, the Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) György Hölvényi made a brief statement to the media. "The mission today has 170 observers who have been deployed throughout the country. Since the early morning our teams are sending reports of their observation from all 26 minor districts and all 15 major districts in Lebanon.

Our teams in the field observed that most of the polling stations have opened on time, or with a slight delay. In general, we have observed a calm atmosphere inside and outside the polling stations with minor issues."

[Click here](#)

Al Araby

Lebanese elections: Monitors report violations on disabled voters

Election monitors have reported violations of disabled voters' rights in polling stations across Lebanon, with the European Union saying two-thirds of polling stations were inaccessible for those with limited mobility. Lebanon, despite the existence of a rights law for disabled people, has consistently failed to make its elections inclusive. The previous election in 2018 was marred with violations. A disability advocate later sued the state for not fulfilling its obligations after she was carried up the stairs to her polling location.

[Click here](#)

Al Markazia

The Chief Observer of the European Union delegation: We will present an assessment of the electoral process on Tuesday

The Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, Georges Holvini, visited the Emir Chakib Arslan Mixed Intermediate School in Verdun, inspecting the voting process. After the visit, Holvini declared: "The EU EOM is interested to report that it has deployed around 170 observers across the country today. Since the early morning our teams are on the ground, sending out electoral process monitoring reports from the 26 smaller constituencies, and from the large constituencies of up to There are 15 districts in Lebanon, and our fieldwork team noted that most polling stations opened on time, and there were those who opened with a slight delay.

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Mustaqbal web

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NNA

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Beirut 24

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Lebanon News

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AL Manar

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AL Modon

The European mission is watching and an attack on Wassef Al-Movement in Burj Al-Barajneh

Despite all the violations shown on television and documented by the Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections, the head of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, Georges Holvini, announced that "the European Union Election Observation Mission has deployed about 170 observers throughout the country today. Since the early morning our teams have been present. In the field, reports are sent to monitor the electoral process from the 26 small districts, and from the 15 major districts in Lebanon. Our fieldwork team noticed that most polling stations opened on time, and some opened with a slight delay.

He said, "We noticed a calm atmosphere inside and outside the polling stations, with some minor problems. Our observers recorded an increasing turnout from people to the polling stations."

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Ahram

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Al Hurra

Chaos, violence and "wholesale violations"... Lebanon concludes its parliamentary elections

The Chief Observer of the European Union's election observation mission in Lebanon, Georges Holvini, announced that the mission had deployed about 170 observers throughout the country.

"Next Tuesday, May 17th, the mission will present an assessment of what it observed during the electoral campaigns and on the day of the elections, in a press conference to be held at eleven in the morning," he affirmed.

Al-Hurra's correspondent in Lebanon said that the election day began with the registration of a lizard for a citizen in the Haret Hreik area by the guards charged with protecting the President of the Lebanese Republic, Michel Aoun, after it was said that the citizen had insulted him during his participation in casting his vote in his hometown, in the southern suburb of Beirut. The guards were seen dragging the citizen into a security vehicle and slapping him and hitting him in the head.

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AL Araby AL JAdeed

Closure of polling stations in the Lebanese parliamentary elections and start of vote counting Holvini: We noticed a calm atmosphere at the polling stations

The chief osberver of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, Georges Holveny, said that the mission observed "a calm atmosphere inside and outside the polling stations, with some minor problems." He added, "We recorded an increasing turnout by voters, with the inability to reach voters with special needs in two-thirds of the polling stations we monitor."

The head of the mission also noted violations of the electoral silence on major visual media, and the appearance of political content by candidates on their screens.

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Ad Dyar

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Asharq AL Awssat

Lebanon votes for its new parliament with "hundreds of violations," accusing the president of "breaking the electoral silence."

The facts of the electoral process that took place in Lebanon yesterday (Sunday), contradicted the expectations of the Lebanese for a radical change that overthrows the influence of political forces in light of the worst economic, financial and living crisis in the country, as the voice of change outside the political lineups has diminished to a large extent in most electoral districts, in return for a political escalation. The concentration between the "Lebanese Forces" and "Hezbollah" was not without violence, tension, and many violations. The long election day in Lebanon is marked by hundreds of violations by candidates and officials alike, led by President Michel Aoun, according to the Lebanese Election Monitoring Association by making media statements, which was considered a violation of the electoral silence that was supposed to continue until the closure of the elections. The polls are at seven in the evening.

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Kuna

EU EOM chief observer: 170 observers spread all over Lebanon

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LBCI news

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Mtv News

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Youm 7

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Presentation of Preliminary statement, Tuesday 17 May

Annahar Newspaper

Full Council: clusters change decision mechanism

The European Union welcomed the holding of the parliamentary elections in Lebanon, and praised, in a statement, “the Lebanese who voted and who participated in the preparation and implementation of the electoral process, for the sense of citizenship they showed through their participation in it, despite the difficult political, economic and social circumstances surrounding these elections.”

He also praised the "security forces for their contribution to maintaining a calm and safe environment in general, and for helping to ensure that elections are held without major security incidents."

The statement added: “The European Union has contributed to making these elections possible, by providing extensive technical assistance to electoral management bodies and by dispatching an election observation mission.

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Nidaa Al Watan

International, European and Arab messages: to speed up the government and prevail over the non – state

The parties in power woke up from the electoral nightmare to face the bitterness of losing the parliamentary majority and the decline of their strategic stock of “crowns” to alarming levels after the setback that hit the “comrades in arms” in various constituencies under the weight of the changeover sovereign votes generated by the funds against the state’s power and corruption.

International, Arab and European messages intersected yesterday when stressing the need to expedite the formation of a new government that "can complete the agreement with the IMF and implement the necessary reforms to put Lebanon on the path of economic recovery," as United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed, stressing the need for "the House of Representatives to support The elected is a quick process to form a government and to act responsibly and constructively to serve Lebanon and its people," according to the statement of the European Union, noting the need to "build on the results of the elections and expedite the formation of a government capable of implementing the necessary and necessary reforms to enable Lebanon to emerge from the crisis," as Al-Amin put it. General of the League of Arab States, Ahmed Aboul Ghaid.

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NNA

The European Union Election Observation Mission: Vote buying practices affected the freedom to choose voters and led to a lack of equal opportunities

"Although preparations were affected by limited financial and human resources, the election authorities delivered the 15 May parliamentary elections", explained Mr. György Hölvényi, Chief Observer of the European Union Electoral Observation Mission (EU EOM) in Lebanon, when presenting the mission's preliminary statement at a press conference today in Beirut.

On election day, the EU EOM deployed 167 observers to all 26 minor districts of the country. Overall, the EU EOM visited 658 polling stations. In this regard, Mr. Hölvényi underlined that: "the atmosphere was mostly calm, but a number of localised tensions were reported. Often, the insufficiently trained polling staff could not prevent an intrusive behaviour of candidate agents and the secrecy of the vote was not always guaranteed."

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OTV

A statement from the European Union Election Observation Mission... This is what it says!

The European Union Election Observation Mission noted in a statement that "vote buying practices affected the freedom of voter choice and led to the absence of equal opportunities."

To view the statement:

[Click here](#)

Al Jounhouria

How did the European Union mission comment on the elections?

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Lebanon Debate

The initial report of the "European Union Mission" on the elections!

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Sawt Beirut International

How did the EU EOM assess the electoral process on 15 May?

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IM Lebanon

“EU EOM”: Vote buying affected the freedom of voters

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Transparency News

EU mission report: buying votes and clientele affected the freedom of voters

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L’Orient Today

EU chief observer Hölvényi says results are "valid" despite noting several electoral violations

In a preliminary report on the results of their monitoring of the electoral process in Lebanon, the European Union Election Observation Mission noted that election preparations were affected by "limited financial and human resources" and that the process was “overshadowed by widespread

practices of vote buying and clientelism, which distorted the level playing field and seriously affected the voters' choice.”

Nevertheless, Chief Observer György Hölvényi praised the fact that the elections went forward at all and said that the results were “valid.”

The EU observers were deployed around the country beginning March 27 and in polling centers in all districts and sub-districts of Lebanon on election day.

The delegation noted “localized tensions” on the day of elections, an evident “lack of training” by poll workers, and that campaign representatives “were present in high numbers, controlling voter attendance, and often displaying intrusive behavior,” adding that “the secrecy of the vote was not always guaranteed.”

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Al Arabiya Lebanon

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MTV English

EU EOM: Vote Buying Practices Affected Voters’ Free Choice, Resulted in a Lack of Level-Playing Field

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Lebanese Forces News

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Aliwaa News paper

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El Marada News

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El Nashra

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El Siyassah

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Mustaqbal web

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Akhbar El Yawm

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Jadidouna

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The New Arab

Lebanon election marred by vote-buying, violations: EU observers

EU electoral observers said the elections were "overshadowed" by electoral violations in a preliminary report.

EU Election observers delivered a critical assessment of Lebanon’s 15 May parliamentary elections, pointing to instances of vote-buying and intimidation as violations of the electoral process.

The preliminary report, released by the EU Election Observation Mission to Lebanon on Tuesday, recorded instances of electoral violations on election day and the preceding campaigns.

The report said that the clientelism that characterised many election campaigns “distorted the level playing field and seriously affected the voters’ choice.”

Lebanon has historically been dominated by sectarian parties that offer services in exchange for political support, a practice enabled by a lack of public services.

In the run up to the 2022 elections, it was not uncommon to see roads being re-paved and parcels of food distributed in an attempt to buy voters’ loyalty.

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Daraj Media

Following the release of the results of the Lebanese parliamentary elections, the European Union Election Observation Mission issued a report documenting the general situation of the election day. The mission stated that the elections were marred by illegal practices of vote buying and clientelism that distorted the principle of equal opportunities and affected voters' choices.

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Al Jadeed TV – video report

The European Union Parliamentary Election Observation Mission comments on vote buying

[Click here](#)

Nidaa Al Watan

Abboud received the initial report from the European Union Parliamentary Election Observation Mission

The Public Relations Department of Beirut Municipality stated in a statement that "after a series of meetings and meetings held by the governor of Beirut with the European Union mission to monitor the parliamentary elections 2022, to see the progress of work and the measures taken during the parliamentary elections period, from the distribution of ballot boxes to the monitoring of the elections." Counting operations in order to issue the final results, in light of this, a delegation from the mission visited the Governor of Beirut, Judge Marwan Abboud, in his office in the Municipal Palace, in the presence of the Head of the Governorate Department, Samer Yaqoub, on a farewell visit, where the Governor Abboud delivered the initial report of the election observation process on

[Click here](#)

Al Modon

EU mission report: Unequal elections

The European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon drew attention to widespread practices of vote buying and clientelism in the elections that took place on Sunday, May 15.

In its report issued today, Friday, May 20, it emphasized that these practices distorted the principle of equal opportunities, and significantly affected the choices of voters.

Legal Problems

According to the report, the elections took place in a calm atmosphere, but there were cases of local tensions. However, he considered that electoral campaigns lack equal opportunities. Vote buying, clientelistic practices, and cases of intimidation were recorded, as well as the destruction of publications related to certain electoral campaigns, and the obstruction of electoral campaigns for some candidates and lists.

The report pointed out that the October 17 uprising led to the emergence of new forces from civil society, the results of which proved that they can form a political opinion in the country.

The report dealt with the legal problems of the electoral law, considering that the size of the districts and the number of seats allocated to each district, result in large differences between the percentages of voters and seats, which is inconsistent with the principle of equal voting. Also, the electoral law does not explain the criteria adopted for allocating seats to each constituency.

On electoral education, he pointed out that the information was not well available to voters. The supervisory body did not perform its role in terms of electoral education, as stipulated by law, and the media did not allocate the time required for voter education.

Full report follows.

[Click here](#)

International media – In English

The New York Times

Hezbollah Loses Majority Bloc in Lebanon Election, Results Show

An observation mission sent by the European Union described the campaign in an initial report released on Tuesday as “vibrant but marred by various instances of intimidation, including on social media, and instances of campaign obstruction.”

The election was skewed, the report said, by “a high monetization of the campaign, where a culture of in-kind and financial handouts for electoral purposes by institutions owned or managed by candidates or parties prevailed.”

[Click here](#)

The Washington Post

Hezbollah and allies lose majority in Lebanon’s parliamentary elections

The European Union’s Election Observation Mission also said in a preliminary report that “elections were overshadowed by widespread practices of vote buying and clientelism.”

[Click here](#)

Reuters

Hezbollah and allies lose majority in Lebanese parliament, final results show

The economic decline has pushed nearly three-quarters of Lebanon's population under the poverty line, which election observers had warned could open the door to more vote-buying.

In a preliminary statement on Tuesday, the European Union Election Observation Mission said the poll had been "overshadowed by widespread practices of vote-buying, clientelism and corruption".

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Euronews

Scores of EU election observers were sent to Lebanon. Here's how they witnessed 'irregularities'

Lebanon's parliamentary election, held last weekend, was hotly contested as the country remains severely impacted by an economic meltdown so to ensure transparency, European election observers monitored the ballot.

In total, some 167 European election observers from the 27 member states as well as Norway and Switzerland were dispatched including 30 who arrived in early April to begin the groundwork for a thorough assessment. They found fundamental "irregularities" in the electoral process such as vote-buying, campaign obstruction and intimidation at polling centres.

What does election monitoring entail?

In the initial countdown to polling day, the role of the observers is to meet with all relevant agents of the process in an effort to evaluate the level playing field, and whether there is a chance for all parties to advance their campaign in the interests of fairness and democracy.

“When we meet with candidates, we talk to them about how the campaign is going, what kind of campaign strategy or methods they use in order to reach out to the voters, if they feel that they can campaign freely,” Nikolay Paus, an EU observer based in Tripoli in north Lebanon, told Euronews.

“We also talk to the electoral administration to see how the preparations are going. We talk to the media to see if they can campaign freely”.

Crucially the mission is not there to investigate the election or to issue a judgment on the election per se. “We are not here to interfere in the process, we are not investigators,” György Hölvényi, Chief Observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, told reporters at the publication of the preliminary statement from the mission.

A team of two long-term observers was sent to each of the 26 districts in the country for the duration of the campaign. They visited 798 polling stations on polling day to monitor the voting process on this day.

What observers saw

Crucially, observers cannot intervene in any situation even if they witness a breach.

Some EU Observers told Euronews they saw heavy-handed levels of intimidation and coercion by party operatives or agents of some candidates. On some occasions agents forcibly accompanied voters to the ballot box. Often these were elderly, disabled or vulnerable people.

On polling day numerous tensions were reported by observers, and the "lack of training" of staff at the centres became visible. The EU mission officially confirmed in its preliminary statement that the lack of training of staff was obvious, and they were “not in control of the voting process” where operatives and political groups were "controlling who voted."

Overall, the observer mission was given access to perform their duties, however, in one station, the Lebanese Armed Forces expelled the EU team only allowing them to return when the voting process had finished. Once the ballot closed, votes were packed, boxes sealed and the Observer mission travelled to the tabulation centres to watch the counting process. While the mission said the counting process was largely transparent, the plethora of procedural errors in the lead-up constituted a major influence on the outcome of the result.

Essentially, the EU concludes the secrecy of the ballot was not always guaranteed.

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Euronews

Lebanon elections: Hezbollah and allies lose majority in parliamentary vote

Voter turnout was down to 41% from 49% in 2018, indicating that Hezbollah parties -- who have been in power for three decades -- may have failed to mobilise their supporters.

The Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections has claimed that its members were threatened and attacked by several groups, mostly in areas controlled by Hezbollah and Amal.

In a preliminary statement on Tuesday, the EU's Election Observation Mission said the poll had been "overshadowed by widespread practices of vote-buying, clientelism and corruption".

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Euronews – video report

(About EU EOM: from 1:18)

Lebanon elections: Hezbollah and allies lose majority in parliamentary vote

Lebanon's largest political bloc has lost its parliamentary majority, according to official election results. The Iran-backed militant Hezbollah group and its allies lost several seats to its strongest opponents in Sunday's vote. Hezbollah and its main Shiite ally, the Amal group of Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, managed to retain the 27 seats allocated to the sect.

But the bloc lost the parliamentary majority it had held since 2018 and won just 61 seats -- a drop of 10 members since the last vote was held in 2018.

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Al Jazeera

The chief observer of the European Union’s mission, György Hölvényi, said on Tuesday that the elections were “overshadowed by widespread practices of vote buying, clientelism and corruption”.

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The National

Hezbollah and allies lose parliamentary majority in Lebanese elections

Election turnout was just 41 per cent — eight percentage points lower than in 2018 — potentially reflecting the Future Movement's decision not to run and call supporters to boycott. The increase in independents suggested that the traditional sectarian parties that have shared power for decades failed to mobilise their supporters.

Jarek Domanski, the deputy chief observer for the EU's observation mission, said that "vote-buying and clientelism, in general, these clientelistic practices which are systemic and long term in this country, in our opinion, did affect, did distort the electoral process and did affect the free voters' choice". Much of Lebanon has been plunged into poverty amid an economic meltdown, with the country experiencing extreme shortages of electricity and essentials such as medicine.

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Aawsat

EU Says Vote Buying, Clientelism Were Widespread in Lebanese Elections

Due to a lack of financial and human resources, election preparations in Lebanon started very late, with the budget allocated less than a month before the polls, said the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) in Lebanon Chief Observer, Gyorgy Holvenyi.

On election day, the EU EOM deployed 167 observers to all 26 minor districts of the country and visited 798 polling stations. Holvenyi reported that the atmosphere accompanying the electoral process was generally calm, but there were cases of local tensions.

The lack of training and the massive presence of candidate agents led to situations in which the polling staff was not entirely in control of the process. The mission's initial report stated that widespread practices of vote buying and clientelism overshadowed the elections, distorted the principle of equal opportunities, and significantly affected voters' choices. The campaign was vibrant but marred by various instances of intimidation, including on social media and instances of campaign obstruction, and the legal framework for campaign finance suffers from severe shortcomings concerning transparency and accountability. While the freedom of speech was generally respected, the media failed to provide equal visibility and balanced coverage. Head of the European Parliament delegation Brando Benifei said that democracy goes beyond elections. Benifei stressed: "The structural political and economic reforms, which Lebanon needs to tackle the socio-economic crisis, the widespread corruption, and the political stalemate, cannot be postponed any longer. "To this end, I would like to strongly urge all political forces in the newly elected parliament to focus on the well-being and the aspirations of the Lebanese people instead of pursuing short-term political gains."

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Middle East News 24

European observers: Parliamentary elections in Lebanon were overshadowed by widespread vote-buying practices

The European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon said in a preliminary statement on Tuesday that the parliamentary elections were "overshadowed by widespread practices of vote buying, nepotism and corruption".

Speaking during a press conference following the announcement of the final results by the Lebanese Interior Minister Bassam Mawlawi, Giorgi Holvin, chief observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, said, "There were violent incidents that occurred in all polling stations," adding: "There was another problem and It's a big deal to buy votes.

The role of the EU mission observers is to examine the conduct of the electoral process, from preparation to the shipment of ballot papers to the polling stations, as well as the presence of representatives at the time of counting the votes in the various counting centers.

The statement of the European Union Election Observation Mission in Lebanon noted that "the legal framework for electoral campaign financing suffers from serious deficiencies in terms of transparency and accountability," adding that "while freedom of expression was generally respected, the media

failed to provide an equal view and balanced coverage” of the elections, which The first is after an economic collapse that the World Bank has classified among the worst in the world since 1850, and after a horrific explosion on August 4, 2020 in the port of Beirut that killed more than two hundred people and destroyed neighborhoods in the capital and resulted in the storage of huge quantities of dangerous materials without preventive measures .

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ReliefWeb

UN Special Coordinator congratulates Lebanon on conduct of elections

United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Joanna Wronecka congratulated Lebanon on the conduct of parliamentary elections in Lebanon on Sunday 15 May that enabled the Lebanese people to exercise their democratic right to select their representatives and make their voices heard.

The Special Coordinator welcomed the role played by European Union, other international and local observers in the elections process and noted the preliminary statement of the EU Election Observation Mission Lebanon.

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KTAR News 92.3 FM

Hezbollah, allies lose majority in Lebanon parliament

György Hölvényi, the chief observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission, speaks during a press conference with members of his team, at the Movenpick Hotel in Beirut, Lebanon, Tuesday, May 17, 2022. The EU mission presented its findings on the Lebanese Parliamentary elections. that were held on Sunday.

[Click here](#)

In French

France 24 – video report

LIVE interview with Jarek Domanski, DCO of the EU EOM

Polling stations closed on Sunday at 7pm (16:00 GMT) in Lebanon, as voters were called to elect their 128 deputies. The counting is taking place in the presence of the assessors and the various observers on site, including the 170 EU observers. Interview with Jarek Domanski, Deputy Head of the EU observation mission.

[Click here](#)

France 24 – video report

Hezbollah and its allies lose majority in Lebanese parliament

(About the EU EOM: from 0:40)

Lebanon's powerful pro-Iranian Hezbollah movement and its allies have lost their majority in parliament, according to the results of Tuesday's parliamentary elections, which were also marked by a breakthrough by candidates from the 2019 popular protest.

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RTS: Radio Television Suisse - LE JOURNAL DE 6H

Interview with Jarek Domanski, DCO of the EU EOM

(From 5:30 to 6:40)

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Euronews (French)

The European Union very strict on the conduct of the elections in Lebanon

However, the EU mission in Lebanon responsible for observing the elections has published its preliminary report. She was very critical, saying there was widespread vote buying, with money but also in-kind benefits, some parties giving people things like generators, fuel in exchange for votes, and that at a time of course when the Lebanese are suffering from the worst financial economic crisis in months. Nearly 77% of the population lives below the poverty line. There were also reports of voter intimidation at polling stations, where party agents took people to vote, to monitor them and ensure they were voting for the right people. There was some violence, but it was localized. There have also been obstructions against some candidates, especially women. This is therefore a rather bad interpretation of the conduct of the vote. Given the context in which Lebanon finds itself, it is already a good thing that an election took place, but it is well below international standards.

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ICI Beyrouth – video report

EU: Corruption and intimidation have ruined the legislative

An electoral process to be welcomed given the economic context of the country, but unfortunately too often disturbed by acts of intimidation and corruption. This is the finding of the European Election Observation Mission in Lebanon, which presented its first observations on the legislative elections on Tuesday, during a press conference held at the Mövenpick hotel.

The preliminary assessment is therefore relatively mixed. "The atmosphere was generally calm, although a number of localized tensions were noted", notes György Hölvényi, head of the European mission. "Often, the lack of training of assessors allowed intrusive behavior on the part of party representatives present in the offices, preventing the secrecy of the vote from being guaranteed," he adds.

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Yahoo en français – video report

The European Union takes a hard line on the conduct of the elections in Lebanon

Surprise in Lebanon: the pro-Iranian Hezbollah and its allies lost the majority in Parliament. The parties resulting from the 2019 protest obtain 13 seats.

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Daily Motion

The European Union takes a hard line on the conduct of the elections in Lebanon

Surprise in Lebanon: the pro-Iranian Hezbollah and its allies lost the majority in Parliament. The parties resulting from the 2019 protest obtain 13 seats.

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Actu Orange report

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MSN.com

The European Union takes a hard line on the conduct of the elections in Lebanon

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In Spanish

El Pais

Hezbollah's loss of majority points to Iran's declining influence in Lebanon

(...) The European Union observer mission that monitored the elections warned Tuesday that the legislative elections "were marked by numerous cases of vote buying and intimidation of voters and candidates, in a climate of clientelism and corruption," according to a preliminary report presented at a press conference in a Beirut hotel. "The fact that the Lebanese were able to vote in the midst of an extreme crisis can nevertheless be considered a success," said Hungarian MEP Gyorgy Holvenyi, head of the EU observer mission.

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EFE

Notable turnout in elections marked by serious crisis in Lebanon

The head of the European Union (EU) election observation mission, György Hölvényi, confirmed at a press conference midway through Sunday that his teams on the ground were reporting a "growing" voter turnout.

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Swiss Info (EFE)

Lebanese parties bought votes for basic products, according to EU mission

The candidates for the parliamentary elections held on Sunday in Lebanon engaged in vote buying and other patronage practices, often through the distribution of basic necessities, according to the preliminary report of the European Union observation mission. "The distribution of 'bread bags' and medical supplies, as well as generators, solar panels and fuel were among the tactics used by certain political parties and candidates, often in their offices, to unduly influence voters," reads the document published today by the mission.

[Click here](#)

Euronews in Spanish – video report

Lebanese authorities deny that there were irregularities in the elections

The Shiite Muslim Hezbollah movement and its allies have lost a majority in the Lebanese parliament, according to Sunday's election results. They have won three fewer seats than they needed. But the lack of an undisputed winner and the rigid power-sharing structure reduce the chances of significant change. The interior minister denies any manipulation.

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EuropaPress

Spain congratulates Lebanon after the elections and hopes that international observers will remedy irregularities

Spain has congratulated the Lebanese people and their authorities on the holding of the parliamentary elections that took place on Sunday 15 May and has stressed that it hopes that the EU election observation mission will help to rectify the irregularities detected for future elections. This was stated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, in a communiqué published by Europa Press, in which it also thanked the...

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CRI

EU urges new Lebanese Parliament to support early government formation

"We call on Parliament to work together to serve the interests of Lebanon and its people, adopting all legislation and implementing the necessary reforms to improve governance and stabilize the economy," the EU Delegation to Lebanon said in a statement. Lebanon.

The EU also reiterated its expectation that the presidential and municipal elections would be held as scheduled, and in accordance with Lebanon's democratic principles, traditions and commitments. "The EU will continue to stand by Lebanon and its people," he said, adding that the EU has helped make these elections possible by providing extensive technical assistance to electoral management bodies and by sending an Election Observation Mission.

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Spanish News CN

EU urges new Lebanese Parliament to support early government formation

The European Union (EU) on Thursday called on Lebanon's newly elected parliament to support the process for the early formation of the government, and shoulder its responsibility to pass necessary legislation and implement reforms. "We call on Parliament to work together to serve the interests of Lebanon and its people, adopting all legislation and implementing the necessary reforms to improve governance and stabilize the economy," the EU Delegation to Lebanon said in a statement. Lebanon. The EU also reiterated its expectation that the presidential and municipal elections would be held as scheduled, and in accordance with Lebanon's democratic principles, traditions and commitments. "The EU will continue to stand by Lebanon and its people," he said, adding that the EU has helped make these elections possible by providing extensive technical assistance to electoral management bodies and by sending an Election Observation Mission.

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Postsus

EU urges new Lebanese Parliament to support early government formation

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In Italian

Il Sole 24 Ore

Lebanon, Hezbollah and its allies lose the majority in parliament

The Iranian-backed Lebanese Shia Hezbollah movement and its allies Amal and the Free Patriotic Movement lost their majority in Beirut's parliament. This was shown by the final results of the legislative elections that took place on Sunday, the first since the 2019 protests and the devastating August explosions two years ago at the port of Beirut. (...)

The head of the European Union Election Observation Mission to the legislative elections in Lebanon, György Hölvényi, said that the election preparations were affected by "limited financial and human resources" and that the shadow of vote buying and patronage practices had fallen over the process. At a press conference in Beirut, at which the preliminary findings of the European Election Observation Mission, which had been present in Lebanon for several weeks before the election, were presented, Hölvényi said that, in general, the process had been 'overshadowed by widespread vote-buying, cronyism and corruption... these affect the level playing field and undermine voter choice'.

According to the preliminary report of the EU delegation, the High Election Supervisory Commission 'lacked the funds, human resources and basic equipment to properly monitor the elections'. Moreover, Hölvényi said, "freedom of expression was mostly respected during the campaign period", but the Lebanese media did not provide fair coverage of all candidates, he added.

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Agenzia Nova

Lebanon: EU observer mission, vote buying and selling influenced free choice

Vote buying and cronyism have influenced voters' free choice. This was stated today by Gyorgy Holvényi,...

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Agenzia Nova

Lebanon: EU observer mission, vote buying influenced free choice (3)

Brando Benifei, head of the European Parliament delegation, who observed the election as part of the EU election observation mission, said: "I am happy that, in spite of everything, the elections took place at the end of the previous parliamentary term. However, democracy goes beyond elections. The structural political and economic reforms that Lebanon needs to tackle the socio-economic crisis, widespread corruption and political deadlock can no longer be postponed," he added. "To this end, I would like to urge all political forces in the newly elected Parliament to focus on the welfare and aspirations of the Lebanese people instead of seeking short-term political gains," he concluded.

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Il Bo Live

Lebanese elections: pro-Hizbollah bloc collapses

The most striking fact to emerge from last Sunday's elections in Lebanon is the defeat of the pro-Hezbollah bloc, the Shia nationalist armed group backed by Iran, which lost its majority in the unicameral parliament. (...) The European Union also sent a team of observers, who in a report, quoted by the New York Times, wrote: "The election campaign was distorted by a high degree of monetisation of the vote, in which a culture of in-kind and financial handouts for electoral purposes by institutions owned or managed by candidates or parties prevailed.

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Assadakah

Lebanon - EU Delegation: 'Now for reforms'

The conduct of the elections in Lebanon was a success. This was stated by the head of the EU observer mission, MEP Gyorgy Holvenyi, emphasising that the climate was generally calm except for some localised tensions. However, the EU head, reported by 'L'Orient Le Jour', did not fail to note that the process was clouded by widespread practices of vote buying, cronyism and corruption that undermine voter choice. Words confirmed by his deputy, Jarek Domanski, according to whom these are 'systematic practices that have distorted the electoral process, but democracy goes beyond elections'. Structural political and economic reforms, which Lebanon so badly needs to tackle the socio-economic crisis, rampant corruption and political deadlock, can no longer be postponed.

"I am happy that the Lebanese elections have taken place at the end of the legislature in spite of everything," said Brando Benifei, head of the PD delegation to the European Parliament and leading the EU parliamentary delegation in Beirut these days to observe the legislative elections in Lebanon. "In this sense," he added, "I intend to urge all the political forces in the newly elected parliament to focus on the well-being and aspirations of the Lebanese, instead of pursuing short-term goals.

[Click here](#)

La Regione (Switzerland)

Hezbollah loses majority but not power

Enthusiasm for the 'change' front's 13 seats, but fears of a new political stalemate, which could be fatal with the economic and social crisis.

(...) In elections that EU election observers have described as characterised by episodes of 'vote-buying and cronyism', Hezbollah and its ally Amal retained control of their strongholds, but the pro-Iranian coalition overall lost the 70-seat majority it won in the 2018 elections, compared to 65 seats in this round.

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In German

Sddeutsche Zeitung

Hezbollah loses majority - Lebanon faces troubled times

Beirut (dpa) - After the losses of the Shiite Hezbollah and its allies in the parliamentary elections, Lebanon, which was already in crisis, is facing turbulent times. (...)

Election observers complained about irregularities in the voting. The EU delegation reported on a widespread practice of vote-buying. Voting secrecy was not always maintained.

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Die Zeit

Hezbollah loses majority - Lebanon faces troubled times

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Stern

Hezbollah loses majority - Lebanon faces troubled times

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Election observers complained about irregularities in the voting. The EU delegation reported on a widespread practice of vote-buying. Voting secrecy was not always maintained.

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In Portuguese

RTP

Lebanese parties bought votes with commodities, says EU mission

Candidates in Sunday's parliamentary elections in Lebanon resorted to vote-buying and other clientelistic practices, often by distributing basic necessities, according to the preliminary report of the European Union (EU) observation mission.

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Notícias ao Minuto

Lebanese parties bought votes with commodities, report says

Candidates in Sunday's parliamentary elections in Lebanon resorted to vote-buying and other clientelistic practices, often by distributing basic necessities, according to the preliminary report of the European Union (EU) observation mission.

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Observador

Lebanon's legislature expected to perpetuate government in power despite discontent

Lebanese elect the 128 members of parliament on Sunday against a background of economic, social and financial crisis. The EU on Thursday sent a further 40 delegates to Lebanon for an observer mission that will have a total of 170 people in Lebanon on Sunday. These will include recruits from the European diplomatic community in Lebanon as well as a delegation of seven MEPs, including Socialist MEP Isabel Santos, to monitor the vote in the small Mediterranean country.

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In Hungarian

Mandiner.hu

Europe's security begins in the Middle East - György Hölvényi to the Mandiner

It is in the direct European and Hungarian interest for Lebanese to look to the future with optimism, says György Hölvényi, who led the EU election mission in the Middle East as an MEP. Our interview from Beirut!

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Mandiner.hu

Lebanon answers: the security of the whole region is at stake

Elections are being held in Lebanon, a country on the brink of economic collapse in the Middle East that may never have had such a stake. The European Union's mission, led by MEP György Hölvényi, monitors the cleanliness of the elections on the ground. Mandiner is also following events from the venue!

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Hír TV

Parliamentary elections in Lebanon with Hungarian supervision

Shiite Hezbollah and its Maronite Christian ally lost a parliamentary majority in Lebanon.

This was the result of the parliamentary elections, which were followed by a European Union observation mission of 200 people on the ground. György Hölvényi, Member of the European Parliament, was asked to lead the delegation by Joseph Borrell, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

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Mandiner.hu

What is a vote worth in the land of cedars? - He chose Lebanon

Hezbollah and its allies lost ground in Lebanon's first parliamentary election after the political crisis of 2019 and the massive explosion of August 2020. Our on-site report. (...)

So the European Union Election Observation Mission was not in an easy position. The outpost of ten experts arrived in Lebanon at the end of March, later joined by thirty long-term and then forty short-term observers, and a total of one hundred and fifty followed the events on election day. Their preliminary report was made public two days after the vote. "We have made our comments. Most of the problems stem from economic, structural, social and cultural reasons that neither the European Union nor anyone else has the means to address or have a say in." - outlines the situation of György Hölvényi, head of the mission. (...)

[Click here](#)