



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Council Conclusions on Lebanon

*2870th EXTERNAL RELATIONS Council meeting
Brussels, 26 and 27 May 2008*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

1. The Council welcomes the agreement reached in Doha on 21 May that has opened the path towards a full resumption of the functioning of all democratic institutions of the state of Lebanon. The Council welcomes the election of Michel Sleiman as President of Lebanon and looks forward to the full implementation of the Doha agreement based on the Arab initiative and on the principles enshrined in the Lebanese constitution and the Taif Accord.
2. The Council congratulates the parties concerned for their constructive approach and their will to engage in dialogue. It commends the efforts of the Arab League, in particular of the Committee of Foreign Ministers, under the leadership of the Emir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr al-Thani, and Secretary-General Amr Moussa, during both the mediation mission in Beirut and the negotiations in Doha, in ending the recent acts of serious violence and in helping the Lebanese leaders reach an agreement.
3. The Council reaffirms its solidarity with the people of Lebanon and its full support to the government and other democratic institutions. It also commends the Lebanese Armed Forces and their contribution to the stability of the country. It deplores the recent acts of violence in which over 70 people lost their lives and 250 were wounded. The Council reiterates its firm denunciation of all attempts aimed at undermining peace and stability in Lebanon, in particular through the use of force and in this regard it welcomes the agreement reached by the parties in Doha to ban the use of weapons and violence as a means to settle disputes, irrespective of their nature and under any circumstances.

P R E S S

4. The Council recalls its commitment to the full implementation of UNSC Resolutions 1559, 1680, 1701 and 1757 and in this respect looks forward to the start of work of the Special Tribunal. The Council also recalls previous statements and remains determined to reinforce Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, unity and stability.
 5. The Council welcomes the holding of the International Donor Conference on the reconstruction and recovery of Nahr al-Bared Palestinian refugee camp and its surrounding area, which will take place in Vienna on 23 June 2008.
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