



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN INFORMATION KEY DOCUMENTS

# LEBANON

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14 APRIL 2008

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## 1. Preface

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- i This Country of Origin Information Key Documents (COI Key Documents) on Lebanon has been produced by COI Service, UK Border Agency, for use by officials involved in the asylum/human rights determination process. It provides general background information about the issues most commonly raised in asylum/human rights claims made in the United Kingdom. The COI Key Documents includes information available up to 28 March 2008.
- ii The COI Key Documents is an indexed list of key reports, papers and articles produced by a wide range of recognised external information sources. It does not contain any UK Border Agency opinion or policy.
- iii For UK Border Agency users, the COI Key Documents provides direct electronic access to each source referred to in the document, via a link on the source numbers in the index and list of sources. For the benefit of external users, the relevant web link has also been included, together with the date that the link was accessed.
- iv As noted above, the documents identified concentrate mainly on human rights issues. By way of introduction, brief background information on Lebanon is also provided. Please note this background material is not intended to provide a summary of the material contained in the documents listed.
- v This COI Key Documents and the documents listed are publicly disclosable.
- vi Any comments regarding this COI Key Documents or suggestions for additional source material are very welcome and should be submitted to COI Service as below.

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## ADVISORY PANEL ON COUNTRY INFORMATION

- vii The independent Advisory Panel on Country Information (APCI) was established in 2003 to make recommendations to the Home Secretary about the content of the UK Border Agency's country of origin information material. The APCI welcomes all feedback on the UK Border Agency's Key Documents, COI Reports and other country of origin information material. Information about the Panel's work can be found on its website at [www.apci.org.uk](http://www.apci.org.uk)
- viii In the course of its work, the APCI reviews the content of selected UK Border Agency COI documents and makes recommendations specific to those

documents and of a more general nature. The APCI may or may not have reviewed this particular document. At the following link is a list of the COI Key Documents, COI Reports and other documents which have, to date, been reviewed by the APCI: [www.apci.org.uk/reviewed-documents.html](http://www.apci.org.uk/reviewed-documents.html)

- ix Please note: It is not the function of the APCI to endorse any UK Border Agency material or procedures. Some of the material examined by the Panel relates to countries designated or proposed for designation for the Non-Suspensive Appeals (NSA) list. In such cases, the Panel's work should not be taken to imply any endorsement of the decision or proposal to designate a particular country for NSA, nor of the NSA process itself.

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## 2. Background information on Lebanon

**Full Country Name:** The Lebanese Republic

**Country Profile:** Lebanon

**Area:** 10,452 sq km (4,036 sq miles)

**Population:** 4 million

**Capital City:** Beirut (population: 1.6m, estimate 1996)

**People:** 4 million, including an estimated 300,000 Palestinian refugees. The population is predominantly Arab with a sizeable Armenian minority. The Lebanese diaspora is thought to total 14 million

**Languages:** Arabic (official), English, French, Armenian

**Religion(s):** There are 18 registered sects in Lebanon including Druze, Maronite Christian, Shia Muslim and Sunni Muslim

**Currency:** Lebanese Pound

**Major political parties:** Numerous political groupings exist in Lebanon, organised along mostly sectarian lines

**Government:** Republic

**Head of State:** President Emile Lahoud

**Prime Minister/Premier:** Fuad Siniora

**Foreign Minister:** Acting Foreign Minister – Tarek Mitri (also Minister of Culture)

**Membership of international groups/organisations:** Arab League (AL), Intergovernmental Group of 24 (G-24), Group of 77 at the United Nations (G-77), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Criminal Court (ICC), International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRM), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS), International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Maritime Organisation (IMO), International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol), Non Aligned Movement (NAM), Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), United Nations (UN), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), World Health Organisation (WHO), World Trade Organisation (WTrO - observer).

(Information extracted from the FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

### GEOGRAPHY

“Lebanon is tiny (around half the size of Wales) and averages around 50km from east to west and 225 km from north to south. It sits lengthways against the Mediterranean, sandwiched on two sides by Syria and one side by Israel. Lebanon's three biggest cities, Beirut, Tripoli and Sidon lie along the coastline and have their origins in Phoenician and Roman ports. Two large mountain ranges run parallel to each other down the length of the country: Mount Lebanon and the Anti Lebanon.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

MAP



(UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations Cartographic Section, July 2006) [4b]

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## RECENT HISTORY

“The principle of confessionalism is central to Lebanon's political system. Under the Taif Accord (the agreement that ended the civil war in 1990), senior positions of state are divided amongst the different confessional groups. The President is a Christian (Maronite), the Prime Minister is Sunni and the Speaker of the Parliament is a Shi'ite. Parliament is similarly divided with an equal number of Christian and Muslim MPs. General Emile Lahoud was unanimously elected President by the Lebanese parliament in October 1998. Under Syrian pressure the Lebanese parliament passed a constitutional amendment to extend President Lahoud's term in office in September 2004.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

### THE ASSASSINATION OF RAFIC HARIRI: 14 FEBRUARY 2005

“On 14 February 2005, former Lebanese Prime Minister, Rafic Hariri, was assassinated in a bomb that killed 19 others and injured over 200. In Lebanon it was widely believed that Syria was involved in this attack and on 14 March 2005 approximately one million demonstrators came out onto the street to demand the departure of Syrian forces. In response to domestic and international pressure, Syria withdrew and a UN verification team reported on 23 May 2005 that all Syrian troops had withdrawn from Lebanon, although it was uncertain whether all intelligence personnel had left.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

In May 2007, the UN Security Council voted to set up a tribunal to try suspects in the assassination of ex-premier Hariri. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] (Power struggle)

### ELECTIONS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: 29 MAY-19 JUNE 2005

“Elections for the Lebanese National Assembly were then held over four consecutive weekends beginning in Beirut on 29 May 2005 and finishing in northern Lebanon on 19 June 2005. This resulted in victory for the ‘14 March’ coalition (named after the largest bloc of protesters against the Hariri assassination). Subsequently Fuad Siniora was appointed Prime Minister of a coalition government including several of the major parties.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

### THE ISRAEL-HIZBALLAH CONFLICT: 12 JULY-14 AUGUST 2006

“A major crisis erupted between Lebanon and Israel on 12 July 2006 when the militia of the Shiite party, Hizballah, kidnapped two Israeli soldiers from Israeli territory and killed a further eight. This led to a massive retaliatory response by Israel, in which Israel attacked sites across Lebanon. According to official Lebanese figures, 1,187 Lebanese people died in the hostilities and over 4,000 were injured. The majority of them were civilians, and many of them children. There was extensive damage to infrastructure and up to a million people were displaced from their homes, mainly from the south of the country.

“Hizballah responded to the counter-attack with a volley of rocket attacks over the border. In total, Hizballah fired approximately 4,000 rockets in to Israel. These unguided missiles landed on towns and cities in northern Israel, including Haifa, Israel's third largest city. In total 117 Israeli soldiers were killed in the attacks and 43 civilians, with another 100 injured. Some 300,000 Israelis were also displaced during the conflict in response to the missile attacks. Following intense diplomatic activity at the UN to bring hostilities to an end, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1701 on 11 August

2006, which called for a full cessation of hostilities. A formal ceasefire came into place on 14 August 2006.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

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## RECENT EVENTS AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

### POWER STRUGGLE AND ASSASSINATIONS

The British Broadcasting Corporation’s (BBC) Timeline of events in Lebanon, last updated on 21 September 2007, recorded the power struggle between the pro-Syrian parties – notably Hezbollah and Amal – and the March 14 anti-Syrian coalition. [28b] **(Power struggle)** This began with the November 2006 resignation of Ministers from Hezbollah and the Amal movement shortly before the cabinet approved draft UN plans for a tribunal to try suspects in the killing of the former Prime Minister Hariri. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)** The same month a leading Christian politician and government minister, Pierre Gemayel, was shot dead. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)**

In December 2006, thousands of opposition demonstrators took to the streets of Beirut to demand the resignation of the government; many camped out in the centre of the city and remained there as late as July 2007 – albeit with much dwindled numbers. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)** (BBC ‘One year on: Lebanon political paralysis’, 10 July 2007) [28c] The Hezbollah-led opposition stepped up the pressure on the government to resign by calling a general strike in the first month of 2007. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)**

In June and September 2007, two more anti-Syrian MPs were assassinated – Walid Eido was killed in a bomb attack and Antoine Ghanim was killed by a car bomb, both in Beirut – the latter was particularly significant, coming only days before the Presidential vote was due to be held. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)** (BBC ‘MP assassination threatens poll’, 20 September 2007) [28e] As recorded by the BBC’s report of 20 September 2007, Mr Ghanim’s death was the seventh political assassination in recent times:

February 2005	Ex-PM Rafic Hariri
April 2005	MP Bassel Fleihan
June 2005	Anti-Syria journalist Samir Kassir
June 2005	Ex-Communist leader George Hawi
December 2005	Anti-Syria MP Gebran Tueni
November 2006	Industry Minister Pierre Gemayel
June 2007	Anti-Syria MP Walid Eido
September 2007	Anti-Syria MP Antoine Ghanim
[28e]	

### THE SIEGE OF NAHR AL-BARED

Between May-September 2007, the Palestinian refugee camp Nahr al-Bared was besieged by the Lebanese army following clashes between militants of the Islamist group Fatah al-Islam and the Lebanese military. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)** (Profile: Fatah al-Islam, 10 September 2007) [28d] An estimated 300-400 people died and 40,000 residents were forced to flee before the army gained control of the camp. (BBC Timeline, 15 January 2008) [28b] **(Power struggle)** (Profile: Fatah al-Islam, 10 September 2007) [28d]

For more detail on the siege of Nahr al-Bared see the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) website, Lebanon Emergency 2007. [45d]

## THE POLITICAL VACUUM, RIOTS AND ASSASSINATIONS

In September 2007, Parliament adjourned the session to elect a new President until 23 October 2007, following a stay-away by the opposition pro-Syrian bloc that frustrated the process. By November 2007, President Emile Lahoud had stepped down but parliament had failed to elect his successor. Prime Minister Fouad Siniora stated that his cabinet would assume the powers of presidency. (BBC Timeline, 21 September 2007) [28b] (Power struggle) (UN Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 1 October 2007) [47g] A Christian Science Monitor (CSM) report, dated 7 November 2007 recorded the tense atmosphere within the country:

“The deadline for Lebanon's presidential election is less than three weeks away and with no signs of consensus over a candidate among feuding political factions, many Lebanese fear a violent outcome.

“The rising tensions come amid heightened speculation that Lebanon's political factions are arming themselves, resuscitating old militias from the 1975-90 civil war and building new ones in anticipation of street battles ahead.” [48a]

In December 2007, a car bomb killed General Francois al-Hajj, tipped to become army chief since the apparent agreement between the rival parliamentary blocs on the appointment of the current army chief – General Michel Suleiman – as President. (BBC Timeline, 21 September 2007) [28b] (Power struggle) (BBC, 14 December 2007) [28f] Due to continuing disagreements as to the make-up of the cabinet – with the opposition bloc insisting on greater representation, and the ruling ‘March 14’ coalition refusing the opposition’s demands – General Suleiman’s expected appointment did not materialise. (BBC, 13 March 2008) [28i]

The first months of 2008 showed no promise of an early – or peaceful – resolution of the political crisis as a bomb blast, apparently aimed at a US diplomatic vehicle in Beirut, killed four in January, and riots broke out in southern Beirut. (BBC, 15 January 2008) [28g] (BBC, 12 February 2008) [28h] (IRIN, 16 January 2008) [47f] (IRIN, 28 January 2008) [47e]

“At least eight people were killed and 22 wounded as gunfire and grenades erupted after an official with Shia opposition group Amal was shot dead during a confrontation between angry demonstrators and the army on 27 January [2008].” (IRIN, 28 January 2008) [47e]

Amidst accusations of Syrian meddling, and with Lebanon seemingly a pawn in an ‘international tug of war’ between the pro-Lebanese Government US and Saudi Arabia, and pro-Lebanese opposition Syria and Iran, the country was still without a President as of 28 March 2008. (IRIN, 1 October 2007) [47g] (IRIN, 28 March 2008) [47a]

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## ECONOMY

**GDP:** US\$ 22.2 billion

**GDP per head:** US\$ 5800

**Annual Growth:** -5% (2006)

**Inflation:** 4.5%

**Major Industries:** Banking, food processing, jewellery, textiles, mineral and chemical products

**Major trading partners:** Switzerland 20%, UAE 7.7%, Syria 7.7%, Saudi Arabia 6.4%, Iraq 6%, Turkey 4.5%, Jordan 3.7%, Kuwait 3.6%, Qatar 2.8%, USA 2.3%.

**Aid & development:** Small projects only

“Lebanon’s economy has suffered significant damage in the 2 years of instability following the assassination of Hariri in February 2005. In 2006, following a mini-boom in the first half of the year, the war, blockade, and subsequent political crisis dealt particularly serious blows, resulting in a collapse of the tourist industry, negative GDP and a significant brain drain.

“The banking and financial sector however continues to thrive, and effective crisis management from the Central Bank has for the moment removed any serious risk of currency collapse or default on debt repayment. The national debt reached a record level of \$40.4 billion by end of 2006 (185% of GDP), but has been mitigated somewhat by the Paris III conference pledges on 25 January 2007. Paris III resulted in nearly \$8 billion of grants and loans being pledged in return for economic reforms due to begin later in 2007.” (FCO Country Profile, 3 April 2007) [2a]

## EXCHANGE RATE

As of 28 March 2008, obtained from Oanda.com’s FXConverter:

1 Lebanese Pound (LBP)	0.0003337 British Pound (GBP)
1 British Pound (GBP)	2,996.38 Lebanese Pound (LBP)
1 Lebanese Pound (LBP)	0.0006704 US Dollar (USD)
1 US Dollar (USD)	1,491.71 Lebanese Pound (LBP)

[29a]

## HUMAN RIGHTS

“There were limitations on the right of citizens to peacefully change their government. In a climate of impunity, there were instances of arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life, torture, and other abuses. Security forces arbitrarily arrested and detained individuals, while poor prison conditions, lengthy pre-trial detention and long delays in the court system remained serious problems. The government violated citizens’ privacy rights, and there were some restrictions on freedoms of speech and press, including intimidation of journalists. Government corruption and a lack of transparency remained problems. There were limitations on freedom of movement for unregistered refugees, while widespread, systematic discrimination against Palestinian refugees continued. Domestic violence and societal discrimination against women continued. Violence against children and child labor also remained problems.” (United States Department of State (USSD) Report on Human Rights Practices 2007) [6b]

“In a 34-day war in July-August between Hizbullah and Israel, about 1,200 Lebanese people were killed, hundreds of them children, and around one million were displaced by Israeli attacks. The attacks also destroyed tens of thousands of homes and much

civilian infrastructure in Lebanon. At least 20 people were killed and scores injured by Israeli cluster munitions that remained after the conflict... Palestinian refugees resident in Lebanon continued to face restrictions, including on access to housing and work, and rights at work. The law continued to discriminate against women and failed to afford them adequate protection against violence." (Amnesty International (AI) Annual Report 2007) [11a]

"The constitution provides for freedom of the press, though the government restricts this right in practice. A 1991 security agreement bans all media activity that might harm Syria, and strict defamation and security laws prohibit criticism of top leaders; however, political events in 2005 encouraged Lebanese media to challenge these restrictions. Journalists and publications accused of press offenses may be prosecuted in a special publications court. Security services are authorized to censor all foreign magazines, books, and films before they are distributed in Lebanon. The government continues to take steps to limit journalists, though with less impact than before, as the diversity of media outlets and the momentum of political events have made it increasingly difficult to restrict press coverage." (Freedom House (FH) Freedom in the Press 2006) [13b]

"Lebanon's heavily politicized media are a reflection of the country's sectarian-based political system. Major political figures and groups own or control major media that often reflect their views. But taken together, they make up a diverse media landscape that, by regional standards, is among the most vibrant. Still, self-censorship persists for journalists, who face any number of legal and bureaucratic hurdles. " (Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) Attacks on the Press in 2006) [14a]

"The government provides criminal penalties for official corruption, but they were seldom enforced. According to the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators, government corruption was a serious problem. Public officials were required by law to disclose their financial assets to the Constitutional Council; however, the information was not open to the public. There are no laws regarding public access to government documents. In practice the government did not respond to requests for documents." (USSD Report on Human Rights Practices 2007) [6b]

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### 3. Index to key source documents

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<b>KEY FACTS AND GEOGRAPHY</b>	[1a]	Europa World Online Lebanon Country Profile (accessed on 2 April 2008) <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a> (Subscription)
	[2a]	Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a>
	[3a]	United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) World fact book: Lebanon, last updated 20 March 2008 <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html</a>
	[6a]	USSD Background Note: Lebanon, November 2007 <a href="http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm">http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm</a>
	[6b]	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	[28a]	British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Country Profile: Lebanon, updated 15 January 2008 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/791071.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/791071.stm</a>
<b>MAPS</b>	[2a]	FCO Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a>
	[3a]	CIA World fact book: Lebanon, last updated 20 March 2008 <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html</a>
	[4a]	United Nations Cartographic Section (UNCS) Southern Lebanon, July 2006 <a href="http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/southern_lebanon.pdf">http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/map/profile/southern_lebanon.pdf</a>
	[4b]	UNCS Lebanon Reference Map, July 2006 via <a href="http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/fullMaps_Sa.nsf/luFullMap/0A0A14998CEFD4FE852571B4007EFE65/\$File/uncs_REF_lbn21072006.pdf?OpenElement">http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/fullMaps_Sa.nsf/luFullMap/0A0A14998CEFD4FE852571B4007EFE65/\$File/uncs_REF_lbn21072006.pdf?OpenElement</a>
<b>HISTORY</b>	[1a]	Europa World Online Lebanon Country Profile (accessed on 2 April 2008) <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a> (Subscription)
	[2a]	FCO Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a>

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<b>POLITICS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS</b>	<p>[1a]</p> <p>[2a]</p> <p>[5a]</p> <p>[6a]</p> <p>[6b]</p> <p>[7a]</p> <p>[8a]</p>	<p>Europa World Online Lebanon Country Profile (accessed on 2 April 2008) <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a> (Subscription)</p> <p>FCO Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a></p> <p>Constitution of Lebanon, 1926 <a href="http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm">http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm</a></p> <p>USSD Background Note: Lebanon, November 2007 <a href="http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm">http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm</a></p> <p>USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a></p> <p>Jane's Information Group (Jane's) Country Profile: Lebanon, last updated 21 August 2007 <a href="http://www4.janes.com/subscribe/sentinel/EMEDS_doc_view.jsp?Sent_Country=Lebanon&amp;Prod_Name=EMEDS&amp;K2Dockey=/content1/janesdata/sent/emedsu/lebns020.htm@current">http://www4.janes.com/subscribe/sentinel/EMEDS_doc_view.jsp?Sent_Country=Lebanon&amp;Prod_Name=EMEDS&amp;K2Dockey=/content1/janesdata/sent/emedsu/lebns020.htm@current</a> (Subscription)</p> <p>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report 2006: Lebanon Fact sheet <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/hdr2006/statistics/countries/country_fact_sheets/cty_fs_LBN.html">http://hdr.undp.org/hdr2006/statistics/countries/country_fact_sheets/cty_fs_LBN.html</a></p>

<b>POLITICS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONT'D</b>	<b>[8b]</b>	United Nations Development Programme – Programme on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR) Lebanon in Brief, undated <a href="http://www.pogar.org/countries/country.asp?cid=9">http://www.pogar.org/countries/country.asp?cid=9</a>
	<b>[9a]</b>	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Majlis Al-Nuwwab (National Assembly) <a href="http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2179_A.htm">http://www.ipu.org/parline-e/reports/2179_A.htm</a>
	<b>[11a]</b>	Amnesty International (AI) Annual Report 2007 <a href="http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Lebanon">http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Lebanon</a>
	<b>[13a]</b>	FH Freedom in the World 2007: Lebanon <a href="http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213">http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213</a>
	<b>[28a]</b>	BBC Country Profile: Lebanon, updated 15 January 2008 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/791071.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/791071.stm</a>
	<b>[28b]</b>	BBC Timeline: Lebanon, updated 15 January 2008 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/819200.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/819200.stm</a>
	<b>[28c]</b>	BBC One year on: Lebanon political paralysis, 10 July 2007 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6286402.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6286402.stm</a>
	<b>[28e]</b>	BBC MP assassination threatens poll', 20 September 2007 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7005113.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7005113.stm</a>
	<b>[28f]</b>	BBC Lebanon mourns slain army chief, 14 December 2007 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7143813.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7143813.stm</a>
	<b>[28g]</b>	BBC Beirut attack fuels political tension, 15 January 2008 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7190510.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7190510.stm</a>
	<b>[28i]</b>	BBC Beirut PM invited to Syria summit, 13 March 2008 <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7294873.stm">http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/7294873.stm</a>
	<b>[37a]</b>	Congressional Research Service (CRS) Report for Congress: Lebanon, updated 10 October 2007 <a href="http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf">http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf</a>
	<b>[38a]</b>	International Crisis Group (ICG) Hizbollah and the Lebanese crisis – Middle East Report N°69, 10 October 2007 <a href="http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east_north_africa/arab_israeli_conflict/lebanon/69_hizbollah_and_the_lebanese_crisis.pdf">http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east_north_africa/arab_israeli_conflict/lebanon/69_hizbollah_and_the_lebanese_crisis.pdf</a>



<b>HUMAN RIGHTS – GENERAL CONT'D</b>	<b>[17a]</b>	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Lebanon Annual Report 2006 (published 24 May 2007) <a href="http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/738E99/\$FILE/icrc_ar_06_lebanon.pdf?OpenElement">http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/738E99/\$FILE/icrc_ar_06_lebanon.pdf?OpenElement</a>
	<b>[37a]</b>	CRS Report for Congress: Lebanon, updated 10 October 2007 <a href="http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf">http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf</a>
	<b>[42c]</b>	Human Rights Watch (HRW) World Report 2008: Lebanon <a href="http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf">http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf</a>
	<b>[44a]</b>	MRG State of the World's Minorities 2008: Middle East <a href="http://www.minorityrights.org/download.php?id=470">http://www.minorityrights.org/download.php?id=470</a>
<b>HUMAN RIGHTS – SPECIFIC ISSUES:</b>		
<b>(IN ADDITION TO GENERAL REPORTS ABOVE, INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IS PROVIDED IN THE DOCUMENTS LISTED BELOW)</b>		
<b>ABUSES BY NON-GOVERNMENT FORCES</b>	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[11a]</b>	AI Annual Report 2007 <a href="http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Lebanon">http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Middle-East-and-North-Africa/Lebanon</a>
	<b>[12a]</b>	US Institute of Peace (USIP) On the Issue: Lebanon, March 2007 <a href="http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html">http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html</a>
	<b>[13a]</b>	FH Freedom in the World 2007: Lebanon <a href="http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213">http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213</a>
	<b>[17a]</b>	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Lebanon Annual Report 2006 (published 24 May 2007) <a href="http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/738E99/\$FILE/icrc_ar_06_lebanon.pdf?OpenElement">http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/738E99/\$FILE/icrc_ar_06_lebanon.pdf?OpenElement</a>
	<b>[18a]</b>	Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers (CSC) Lebanon: Global Report 2004 <a href="http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=958">http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=958</a>
	<b>[18b]</b>	CSC The vulnerability of children to involvement in armed conflict, October 2007 <a href="http://www.child-soldiers.org/October_2007_advocacy_brief_LEBANON-final.pdf">http://www.child-soldiers.org/October_2007_advocacy_brief_LEBANON-final.pdf</a>
	<b>[37a]</b>	CRS Report for Congress: Lebanon, updated 10 October 2007 <a href="http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf">http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/96481.pdf</a>

<b>ABUSES BY NON-GOVERNMENT FORCES CONT'D</b>	<b>[38a]</b>	ICG Hizbollah and the Lebanese crisis – Middle East Report N°69 – 10 October 2007 <a href="http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east_north_africa/arab_israeli_conflict/lebanon/69_hizbollah_and_the_lebanese_crisis.pdf">http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east_north_africa/arab_israeli_conflict/lebanon/69_hizbollah_and_the_lebanese_crisis.pdf</a>
	<b>[39a]</b>	UNSC Sixth semi-annual Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004), 24 October 2007 via <a href="http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1228_1199891809_lebanon.pdf">http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1228_1199891809_lebanon.pdf</a>
	<b>[39b]</b>	UNSC Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), 30 October 2007 via <a href="http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1228_1199965649_libisrael07.pdf">http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1228_1199965649_libisrael07.pdf</a>
	<b>[40a]</b>	Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) of Canada Lebanon: The mukhabarat, including their activities, power and organization; whether they have any ties with Syria; how Syria's withdrawal has changed them, 31 October 2007 <a href="http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/?action=record.viewrec&amp;gotorec=451546">http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/?action=record.viewrec&amp;gotorec=451546</a>
	<b>[40b]</b>	IRB Lebanon: The influence of Hezbollah; the extent to which the government is able to control Hezbollah activities; whether Hezbollah is forcibly recruiting members, 31 October 2007 <a href="http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/?action=record.viewrec&amp;gotorec=451544">http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/research/rir/?action=record.viewrec&amp;gotorec=451544</a>
	<b>[42c]</b>	HRW World Report 2008: Lebanon <a href="http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf">http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf</a>
<b>ARREST AND DETENTION – LEGAL RIGHTS</b>	<b>[5a]</b>	Constitution of Lebanon, 1926 <a href="http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm">http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm</a>
	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[12a]</b>	USIP On the Issue: Lebanon, March 2007 <a href="http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html">http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html</a>
	<b>[36a]</b>	World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) Incommunicado detention of Mr. Mahmoud Abou Rafeh since May 2007 (Case LBN 270907), 27 September 2007 <a href="http://www.omct.org/index.php?id=&amp;lang=eng&amp;actualPageNumber=1&amp;articleSet=Appeal&amp;articleId=7274">http://www.omct.org/index.php?id=&amp;lang=eng&amp;actualPageNumber=1&amp;articleSet=Appeal&amp;articleId=7274</a>
<b>CHILDREN</b>	<b>[1a]</b>	Europa World Online Lebanon Country Profile (accessed on 2 April 2008) <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a> (Subscription)

<b>CHILDREN CONT'D</b>	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[6f]</b>	USSD Trafficking in People Report: Lebanon, 12 June 2007 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm</a>
	<b>[11d]</b>	AI Lebanon – Exiled and suffering: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, 16 October 2007 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007">http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007</a>
	<b>[18a]</b>	CSC Lebanon: Global Report 2004 <a href="http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=958">http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=958</a>
	<b>[18b]</b>	CSC The vulnerability of children to involvement in armed conflict, October 2007 <a href="http://www.child-soldiers.org/October_2007_advocacy_brief_LEBANON-final.pdf">http://www.child-soldiers.org/October_2007_advocacy_brief_LEBANON-final.pdf</a>
	<b>[19a]</b>	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) At a glance: Lebanon <a href="http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/lebanon.html">http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/lebanon.html</a>
	<b>[19b]</b>	UNICEF Humanitarian Action Report 2007 <a href="http://www.unicef.org/har07/index_37564.htm">http://www.unicef.org/har07/index_37564.htm</a>
	<b>[34a]</b>	Website created by Professor Martin Patt of the University of Massachusetts Prevalence, Abuse & Exploitation of Street Children: Lebanon, undated <a href="http://www.gvnet.com/streetchildren/Lebanon.htm">http://www.gvnet.com/streetchildren/Lebanon.htm</a>
	<b>[34b]</b>	Website created by Professor Martin Patt of the University of Massachusetts Human Trafficking & Modern Day Slavery: Lebanon, undated <a href="http://www.gvnet.com/humantrafficking/Lebanon.htm">http://www.gvnet.com/humantrafficking/Lebanon.htm</a>
<b>[34c]</b>	Website created by Professor Martin Patt of the University of Massachusetts Child Prostitution: Lebanon, undated <a href="http://www.gvnet.com/childprostitution/Lebanon.htm">http://www.gvnet.com/childprostitution/Lebanon.htm</a>	
<b>CITIZENSHIP AND NATIONALITY</b>	<b>[5a]</b>	Constitution of Lebanon, 1926 <a href="http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm">http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/le00t_.htm</a>
	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[11d]</b>	AI Lebanon – Exiled and suffering: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, 16 October 2007 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007">http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007</a>

<b>CITIZENSHIP AND NATIONALITY CONT'D</b>	<b>[27a]</b>	US Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Citizenship Laws of the World, March 2001 Lebanon <a href="http://www.opm.gov/extra/investigate/IS-01.pdf">http://www.opm.gov/extra/investigate/IS-01.pdf</a>
<b>CORRUPTION</b>	<b>[2a]</b>	FCO Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a>
	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[21a]</b>	Transparency International (TI) Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2006 Regional Results: Middle East <a href="http://www.transparency.org/content/download/10852/93140/version/1/file/CPI%202006_regional_highlights_Middle_East.pdf">http://www.transparency.org/content/download/10852/93140/version/1/file/CPI%202006_regional_highlights_Middle_East.pdf</a>
	<b>[21b]</b>	TI Corruption Perceptions Index Regional Highlights: Middle East 2007 <a href="http://www.transparency.org/content/download/23978/358254">http://www.transparency.org/content/download/23978/358254</a>
<b>DEATH PENALTY</b>	<b>[11b]</b>	AI Abolitionist and Retentionist countries, last updated 2008 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty/abolitionist-and-retentionist-countries">http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty/abolitionist-and-retentionist-countries</a>
	<b>[23a]</b>	Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies Lebanon: Death Penalty for Murder of Saudi business , 28 March 2007 via <a href="http://www.handsoffcain.info/archivio_news/200703.php?iddocumento=9311085&amp;mover=0">http://www.handsoffcain.info/archivio_news/200703.php?iddocumento=9311085&amp;mover=0</a>
	<b>[46a]</b>	<i>The Daily Star (Lebanon)</i> Lebanon: Harri <i>[sic]</i> assassination could lead to abolition of the death penalty, 7 September 2006 <a href="http://deathpenaltyinformation.blogspot.com/2006/09/lebanon-harri-assassination-could-lead.html">http://deathpenaltyinformation.blogspot.com/2006/09/lebanon-harri-assassination-could-lead.html</a>
<b>DISABILITY</b>	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
<b>EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS</b>	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 1 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[11d]</b>	AI Lebanon – Exiled and suffering: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, 16 October 2007 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007">http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007</a>

<b>EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS CONT'D</b>	<b>[20a]</b>	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) Annual Survey of Violations of Trade Unions' Rights 2006 <a href="http://www.icftu.org/displaydocument.asp?Index=991223924&amp;Language=EN">http://www.icftu.org/displaydocument.asp?Index=991223924&amp;Language=EN</a>
	<b>[42b]</b>	HRW Exported and Exposed – Abuses against Sri Lankan Domestic Workers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates <a href="http://hrw.org/reports/2007/srilanka1107/srilanka1107webcover.pdf">http://hrw.org/reports/2007/srilanka1107/srilanka1107webcover.pdf</a>
<b>ETHNIC GROUPS</b>	<b>[1a]</b>	Europa World Online Lebanon Country Profile (accessed on 2 April 2008) <a href="http://www.europaworld.com/pub/">http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</a> (Subscription)
	<b>[2a]</b>	FCO Country Profile: Lebanon, last reviewed 3 April 2007 <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all">http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/middle-east-north-africa/lebanon?profile=all</a>
	<b>[3a]</b>	CIA World fact book: Lebanon, last updated 20 March 2008 <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html</a>
	<b>[6a]</b>	USSD Background Note: Lebanon, November 2007 <a href="http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm">http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/35833.htm</a>
	<b>[6b]</b>	USSD Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm">http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100600.htm</a>
	<b>[11d]</b>	AI Lebanon – Exiled and suffering: Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, 16 October 2007 <a href="http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007">http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE18/010/2007</a>
	<b>[12a]</b>	USIP On the Issue: Lebanon, March 2007 <a href="http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html">http://www.usip.org/on_the_issues/lebanon.html</a>
	<b>[13a]</b>	FH Freedom in the World 2007: Lebanon <a href="http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213">http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&amp;year=2007&amp;country=7213</a>
	<b>[30a]</b>	Ethnologue.com Languages of Lebanon, Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition <a href="http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=LB">http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=LB</a>
	<b>[42c]</b>	HRW World Report 2008: Lebanon <a href="http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf">http://hrw.org/wr2k8/pdfs/lebanon.pdf</a>
	<b>[44a]</b>	MRG State of the World's Minorities 2008: Middle East <a href="http://www.minorityrights.org/download.php?id=470">http://www.minorityrights.org/download.php?id=470</a>

<b>ETHNIC GROUPS CONT'D</b>	<p>[45a]</p> <p>[45b]</p> <p>[45c]</p> <p>[45d]</p> <p>[47b]</p>	<p>United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Lebanon Refugee Camp Profiles, figures as of 31 December 2006 <a href="http://www.un.org/unrwa/refugees/lebanon.html">http://www.un.org/unrwa/refugees/lebanon.html</a></p> <p>UNRWA In figures, 31 December 2007 <a href="http://www.un.org/unrwa/publications/pdf/uif-dec07.pdf">http://www.un.org/unrwa/publications/pdf/uif-dec07.pdf</a></p> <p>UNRWA Flash Appeal Lebanon Final Report 2006 via <a href="http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFiles2008.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/SHIG-7D4EEL-full_report.pdf/\$File/full_report.pdf">http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWFiles2008.nsf/FilesByRWDocUnidFilename/SHIG-7D4EEL-full_report.pdf/\$File/full_report.pdf</a></p> <p>UNRWA 2007 Lebanon Emergency <a href="http://www.unrwa-lebanon.org/nle/">http://www.unrwa-lebanon.org/nle/</a></p> <p>IRIN LEBANON: Palestinians without papers could soon get IDs, 11 March 2008 <a href="http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=77213">http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=77213</a></p>
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