

Statement by the President of The United States on the 3rd Anniversary of Assassination Rafic Hariri

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Statement by the President

Today marks the third anniversary of the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. The terrorist attack that killed Prime Minister Hariri, Minister Basil Fuleihan, and many other innocent victims was the spark that launched a transformation in Lebanon, as the Lebanese people demanded an end to the Syrian occupation and the restoration of their sovereignty.

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White House News

Today marks the third anniversary of the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. The terrorist attack that killed Prime Minister Hariri, Minister Basil Fuleihan, and many other innocent victims was the spark that launched a transformation in Lebanon, as the Lebanese people demanded an end to the Syrian occupation and the restoration of their sovereignty.

Since the assassination of Prime Minister Hariri, many other Lebanese patriots have been murdered by those who seek to use violence and intimidation to derail progress toward a free, independent, and prosperous Lebanon. It is vital that the perpetrators of these attacks be brought to justice, and I therefore call upon the international community to redouble its support for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The United States' support for the Government and people of Lebanon remains firm and unwavering.

Syria, Iran and their allies must end their efforts to undermine Lebanon's legitimate government and to interfere in its political process. The Lebanese deserve a president elected in accordance with their constitution, without preconditions, and in an environment free from fear and intimidation.

The foundation of freedom in Lebanon, which Mr. Hariri helped lay, remains strong. We will continue to support the people of Lebanon as they work to rid the country of terrorism and violence and exercise their democratic freedoms in peace. # # #