

NOW JULY 25, 2013

## Miqati: Lebanon's right to resistance legitimate

Caretaker Prime Minister Najib Miqati said that Lebanon had a legitimate right to embrace the resistance according to international law.

"Lebanon's respect for international legitimacy underscores its right to resistance according to article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations," Migati said in remarks published by *As-Safir* newspaper on Thursday.

The premier also slammed the decision taken by the European Union to include the military wing of the Shiite group Hezbollah on its terror list, saying that it targeted "the resistance that they always hailed as sacred."

The EU decision came after some of the union's 28 foreign ministers overcame reservations in some member states that such a move would further destabilize Lebanon where the party plays a major political role.

To do so, ministers agreed that EU political and economic links with Lebanon would be maintained.

They also highlighted the fact that it is the military wing alone that is blacklisted after Hezbollah was blamed for a deadly attack on Israeli tourists in Bulgaria last year.

On Wednesday, Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah commented on the EU move in a televised speech,

saying that the union would be "complicit" in future Israeli attacks on Lebanon.