



## Future bloc: Citizens do not feel protected by government

The Future bloc issued a statement Tuesday that Lebanese citizens do not feel protected by their government.

“[We were surprised] by the absence of the government when it comes to the violation of Lebanese sovereignty, which make citizens feel that there is no state to protect them,” the statement in reference to the Syrian army’s incursions into Lebanon.

“We all know what the difference is between the [Israeli] violations of the southern borders and the ones made by [Syria],” the statement added.

Last week, Syrian army tanks crossed the Lebanese border near the town of Aarsal and fired several gunshots within Lebanese territory, and later Syrian troops shot and killed a farmer near Aarsal.

The bloc also welcomed the appointment of David Baragwanath as the new president for the UN-backed Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL).

“The families of the martyrs and the Lebanese people are awaiting the results of the tribunal and have entrusted it with their confidence [that it will achieve justice],” the statement also said.

The bloc MPs also slammed the new budget plan proposed by Finance Minister Mohammad Safadi.

“This budget plan includes taxes that could be described as inappropriate and unstudied, and does not [take into consideration] the current economic situation.”

The bloc also condemned the latest events in Egypt and called on the Egyptian authorities to preserve freedom of opinion and political expression.

On Sunday, 25 people were killed and more than 300 injured in clashes after a demonstration by Coptic Christians was attacked by the army and thugs, sparking furious condemnation of the leadership’s handling of the transition from Hosni Mubarak’s rule.

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