

# FRANCE AND LEBANON: PARTNERS FOR PEACE AND STABILITY

---

## Strong and regular diplomatic relations

- **Since 2015: 12 visits** to Lebanon by French Ministers and Presidents
- **August 2017:** visit to France by Lebanese Prime Minister **Saad Hariri**
- **September 2017:** State visit to France by Lebanese President **Michel Aoun**

## Close human and cultural ties

- > half of Lebanese pupils receive bilingual education in French
- > **5,000 Lebanese students in France, their top destination**
- **40 schools with French curriculums**, including 6 French *lycées*
- **9 Institut Français branches**

## Intense economic and trade relations

- Considerable **reciprocal investment**:
  - ❖ stock of French direct investment in Lebanon: **€598 million** (end of 2016)
  - ❖ stock of Lebanese direct investment in France: **€3.93 billion** (end of 2016)
- > **4,700 French businesses** export to Lebanon
- > **100 French businesses** established in Lebanon

## Concrete commitment to Lebanon's stability and unity

- About **700 French soldiers** within the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
- Strong support for **Lebanese institutions and armed forces**
- Since 1999, signature of 27 financing agreements by the **Agence Française de Développement (AFD)** worth a total of almost **€1.2 billion**

## In response to the Syrian crisis, France is mobilized in support of Lebanon

- Lebanon is the leading beneficiary of **French humanitarian and stabilization aid** in the region: **€115 million since 2012** and a commitment of **€100 million over the period 2016-2018**