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Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States Washington D.C.

Welcome to our September 2023 Newsletter



KRG delegation bolsters relations with Canada during Ottawa visit

On September 24, 2023, Minister Safeen Dizayee, the Head of the Department of Foreign Relations, led a Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) delegation to Canada for an official visit aimed at fostering closer ties with Canadian government officials, parliamentarians, civil society representatives, and the vibrant Kurdish community.

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Nashville and Erbil sign Sister City agreement

On September 9, 2023, the Governor of Erbil and the Mayor of Nashville, in cooperation with the Sister Cities of Nashville, signed the Nashville-Erbil Sister City agreement at the Nashville Public Library. Ms. Treefa Aziz, the KRG Representative to the United States, also participated in the ceremony.

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KRG officials participate in UN General Assembly

Washington, DC, USA (us.gov.krd) – Minister Safeen Dizayee, the Head of the Department of Foreign Relations of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), and KRG Representative to the United States, Treefa Aziz, attended the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. They joined as part of the Iraqi delegation from September 19 to 26, 2023.

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KRG delegation attends Chaldean Community Gala in Detroit

On September 22, 2023, Ms. Treefa Aziz, KRG Representative to the United States, joined KRG's Minister of Transportation and Communication, Mr. Ano Jawhar Abdoka, to attend the Chaldean Community Foundation (CCF) 5th Annual Awards Gala in Michigan.

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KRG Minister Safeen Dizayee's Washington visit strengthens bilateral bonds

Minister Safeen Dizayee, Head of the Kurdistan Regional Government's (KRG) Department of Foreign Relations, embarked on a diplomatic mission to Washington, D.C. on September 27, 2023, marking a brief yet impactful visit. Joined by KRG's Washington representative, Treefa Aziz, the Minister held key talks with leading members of Congress, strengthening the ties between the Kurdistan Region and the U.S.

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Canadian parliamentary delegation's visit strengthens ties with Kurdistan.

The Canadian Parliamentary Friends of the Kurds (PFK), led by MP Tom Kmiec visited the Kurdistan Region in September 2023. The delegation met with senior KRG officials, civil organizations, universities, and the media.

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INTERVIEW WITH MYLES B. CAGGINS III
SPOKESPERSON FOR APIKUR
SEASON 4 EPISODE 9

Listen to Previous Episodes:
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/871870/episodes>

Welcome to another engaging episode of the Kurdistan in America podcast: our ninth episode of Season Four. We're honored to host a seasoned guest, Myles B. Caggins III.

Myles, a retired U.S. Army colonel, has transitioned into a crucial role as the spokesperson for The Association of the Petroleum Industry of Kurdistan, known as APIKUR. His shift from a military realm to a pivotal voice in Kurdistan's oil sector is truly remarkable.

In this episode, we discuss the impactful halt in Kurdistan's oil exports via the Iraq-Turkey Pipeline, following the International Chamber of Commerce ruling earlier this year. Myles explains its adverse impacts on both the Kurdistan Region's economy and the international oil firms operating in Kurdistan, while also shedding light on the broader geopolitical repercussions.

We delve further into discussing the essential steps required to mitigate these challenges, emphasizing Washington's potential role in fostering a conducive environment towards resolution.

Representing APIKUR, Myles extends a message of strategic resilience to the people of Kurdistan, illuminating hope during such economic challenges.

Join us, as Myles shares practical steps to help Kurdistan's oil sector find stability in a challenging global setting.

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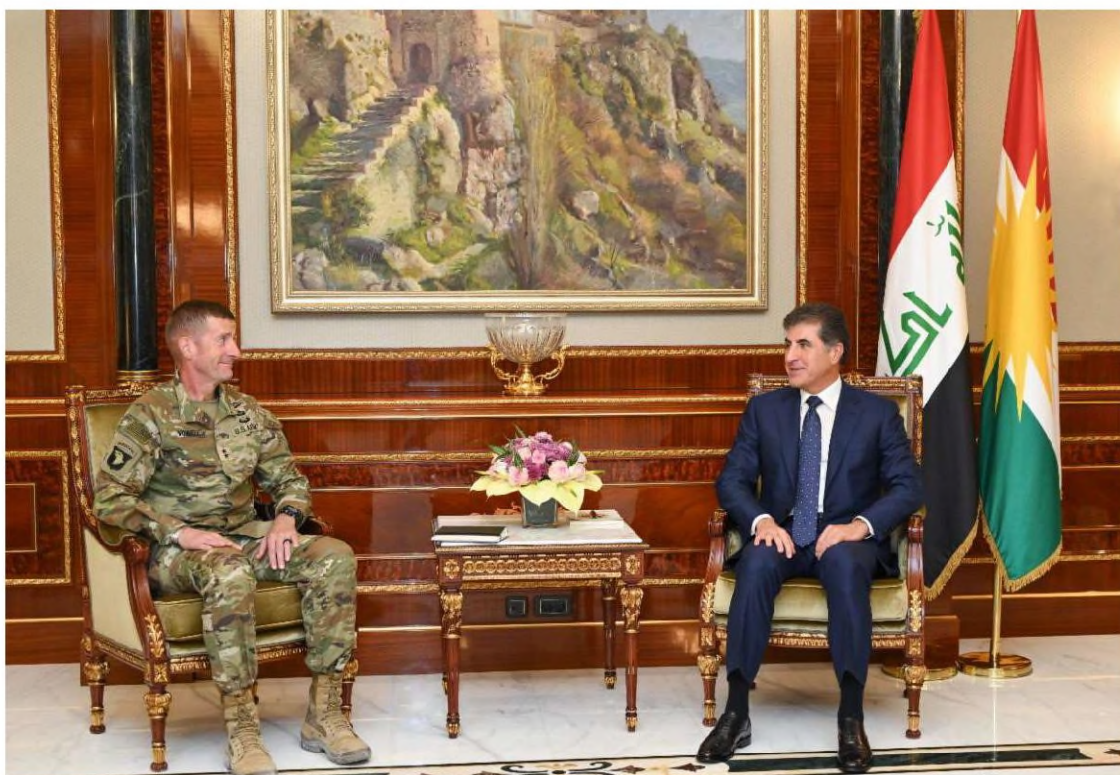
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President Nechirvan Barzani received US Ambassador to Iraq, Ms. Alina Romanowski and her accompanying delegation.

The US relations with Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, the efforts to resolve the outstanding problems between Erbil and Baghdad- especially the issues of budget and salaries of the Kurdistan Region employees and the situation in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region were highlighted during their meeting.

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President Nechirvan Barzani meets with commander of coalition forces in Iraq and Syria

President Nechirvan Barzani met with the U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Joel Vowell, the new commanding general of the Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve (CJTF-OIR) and his accompanying delegation.

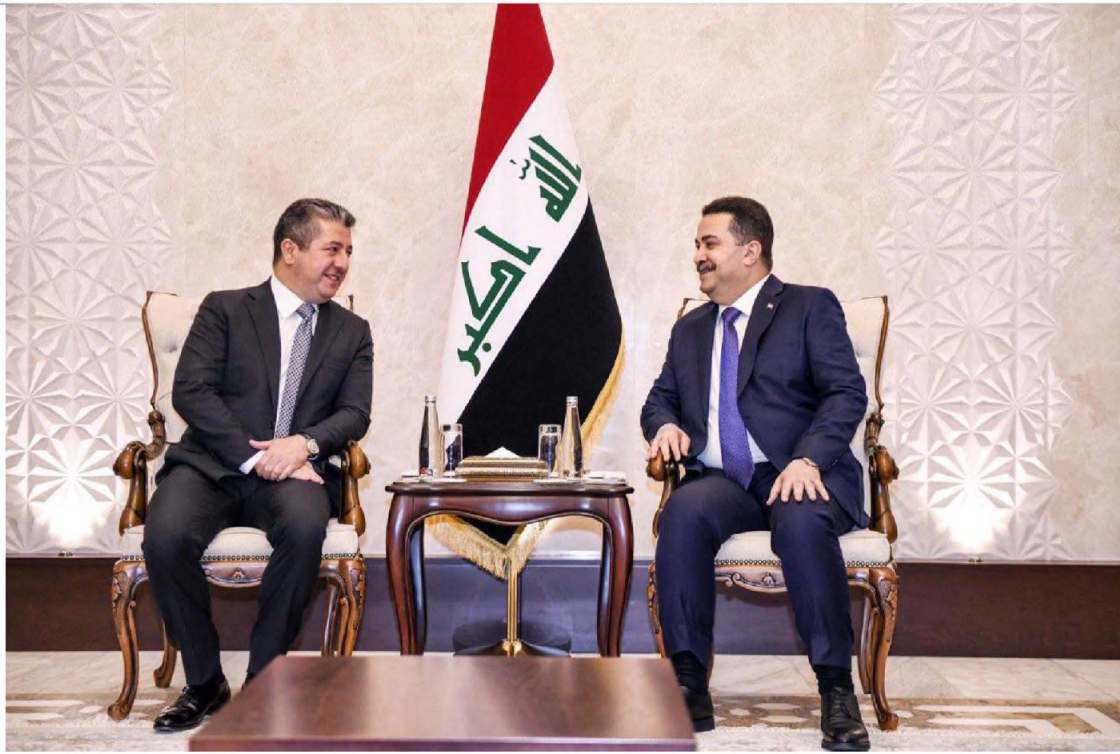
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President Nechirvan Barzani visits those injured in the Hamdaniyah fire incident

President Nechirvan Barzani visited those who were injured in the fire last night in Hamdaniyah, receiving treatment at the Emergency Hospital in Erbil.

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Prime Minister of KRG Meets with Iraq's Premier

On Thursday, September 14, 2023, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) held discussions with Mr. Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, the Prime Minister of Federal Iraq. Joined by KRG Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani and other KRG cabinet members, PM Barzani emphasised the need to address outstanding issues based on the constitution and bilateral agreements.

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KRG Prime Minister Discusses Constitutional Rights and Kirkuk with US Ambassador

On Monday, September 11, 2023, Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), Masrour Barzani, welcomed Ms. Alina L. Romanowski, the United States Ambassador to Iraq. Their discussions focussed on the constitutional rights and financial entitlements of the Kurdistan Region as outlined in the federal budget law.

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Prime Minister Barzani Meets with Operation Inherent Resolve Commander

On Thursday, September 21, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with Major General Joel Vowell, the Commander of Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve, and his delegation. The meeting focused on recent developments in the region, reforms in the Ministry of Peshmerga, and efforts to unify and restructure the Peshmerga forces.

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KRG Prime Minister Meets UNAMI Chief

On Saturday, September 30, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) received Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Iraq and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

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KRG Prime Minister Visits Bakhdida Fire Victims, Attends Mass Funeral

On Saturday, September 30, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) visited the Emergency Hospital in Erbil, where he personally checked on the Bakhdida (Al-Hamdaniya) fire victims, expressing sincere wishes for their speedy recovery.

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KRG Prime Minister Emphasises Importance of Robust Banking System and Small-Medium Sized Businesses

On Monday, September 25, 2023, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) unveiled Project Gashanawa (Shine), a significant initiative aimed at providing commercial loans through private banks to bolster small and medium sized businesses striving to expand their operations.

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PM Barzani Oversees Key Agreement Between Kurdistan Investment Board and IFC

On Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) welcomed a delegation from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) headed by Mr. Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, IFC's Regional Director for the Middle East.

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Kurdistan in the Media



The Last Days of a Legend

In early May this year, before the heat wave struck Erbil, my journalist friend, Dilbixwin Dara, and I were on our way to the Royal City neighborhood. Our...

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Deadly wedding fire caused by negligence, says investigation report

Negligence and fireworks have been ruled as the causes of the deadly fire that killed more than 100 people last week at a wedding party in Mosul province...

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Halt in Kurdish oil exports impacts global prices: IOC VP

The vice president of an American oil company operating in the Kurdistan Region told Rudaw last week that resuming the Region's oil exports...

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Jerwan Aqueduct: Resurrecting a Lost Legacy

Deep in the heart of Kurdistan lies an extraordinary engineering marvel that has stood the test of time for over three millennia: the Jirwana Aqueduct.

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Canadian MP impressed with Kurdistan Region's religious coexistence

Canadian MP Chandra Arya told Kurdistan 24's Rahim Rashidi that he was amazed by the Kurdistan Region's religious coexistence during his...

Kurdish leaders commemorate independence referendum on sixth anniversary

The Kurdistan Region's top leaders on Monday commemorated the sixth anniversary of the Region's independence referendum held in 2017.

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U.S. lawmakers urge Biden to support 'economically strangled' Kurdistan

A new U.S. approach is needed to facilitate the re-opening of a pipeline between Iraq's northern semi-autonomous Kurdistan region...

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Yezidi Kurds Commemorate the Genocide

On August 3 of every year, the Yezidi Kurdish community commemorates a tragic chapter in its history – the genocide perpetrated against them by...

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Kurdistan's Long Road to Healing: Overcoming the Legacy of Landmines

As the world reflects on the history of conflict and its toll on societies, it is imperative to acknowledge the sacrifices made by the Kurdish population...

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Clashes in Kirkuk over handover of HQ to Kurds leave 1 dead, several injured

Demonstrations in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk over the handover of a key facility from federal to local Kurdish authorities turned violent Saturday...

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Turkish bombardment sparks wildfire in Duhok, damages homes

Duhok villagers risked their lives to extinguish the flames of a fire sparked by a Turkish bombardment earlier this week.

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SOFREP Pic of the Day: Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga Fighter Circa 2003

Today, our camera lens focuses on an Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga fighter circa 2003. He happens to be a member of the KDP, the Kurdish Democratic Party...

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American city lights up iconic bridge with Kurdistan flag

Local authorities in the US city of Nashville on Wednesday lit up a historic bridge with the colors of the Kurdistan flag. This comes days before a...

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Understanding the Kurdish Peshmerga

As one of the world's largest ethnic groups without a state of their own, the Kurdish people have been fighting for independence and self-determination...

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