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

Welcome to our November 2023 Newsletter



The Fourth Annual Middle East Peace and Security Forum in the Kurdistan Region Takes Place Despite Gaza Conflict

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Representative to the United States, Treefa Aziz, participated in the Middle East Peace and Security (MEPS) Forum at the American University of Kurdistan (AUK) in Duhok on November 19-21, 2023. The international event serves as a vital platform for addressing instability and conflict in the Middle East.

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## KRG Representative Attends AUK's MEPS Forum in Duhok, Advocating for Regional Stability and Renewed Partnerships

Ms. Treefa Aziz, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Representative to the United States, participated in the Middle East Peace and Security (MEPS) Forum at the American University of Kurdistan (AUK) in Duhok on November 20, 2023. This significant event, now in its fourth year, serves as a vital regional platform for addressing instability and conflict in the Middle East.

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## **KRG Representation Attends Global Gathering for TAPS, Honoring Fallen Heroes and Promoting Peace**

Representing the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Representation in the United States, Mr. Delovan Barwari, Director of Public and Academic Affairs, participated at the Global Gathering for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)...

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**KURDISTAN IN AMERICA**  
PODCAST

**INTERVIEW WITH RETIRED  
BRIGADIER GENERAL ERNEST C. AUDINO**

SEASON 4 EPISODE 11

U.S. ARMY  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
The Gold Institute  
for International Strategy

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Welcome to a new episode of the 'Kurdistan in America' podcast, marking our eleventh episode of Season Four. We are honored to feature retired Brigadier General Ernest C. Audino, a renowned strategic military leader and a seasoned expert in national security and foreign policy.

General Audino serves as the District Director for U.S. Congressman Michael Waltz and as a Senior Military Fellow at the Gold Institute for International Strategy. He is the only U.S. general officer to have served a full year as a combat advisor embedded inside a Kurdish Peshmerga brigade in Iraq and is authoring a book about this experience, emphasizing the Kurdish resilience and quest for freedom.

With a Bachelor of Science from West Point, two master's degrees, and a Juris Doctor, General Audino retired from the Army in 2011.

In this episode, he discusses his motivations in Middle Eastern and Kurdish military affairs, the impact of the Israel-Gaza conflict on Kurdistan, U.S. deterrence in the region, and his perspectives on Kurdish Peshmerga forces. He also recommends policies for U.S. support of the Peshmerga and KRG.

Join us on this enlightening journey as General Audino shares his experience and knowledge, guiding us through the complex geopolitical landscape of the Middle East, with a focus on Kurdistan and Iraq.

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## **President Nechirvan Barzani attends opening ceremony of the World Climate Action Summit at COP28**

President Nechirvan Barzani was among the distinguished guests, including heads of state, royalty, and world leaders, who participated in the opening ceremony of the World Climate Action Summit at the UN climate conference (COP28) in Dubai today.

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### **Statement from the President of the Kurdistan Region on the Return of Minister of Peshmerga**

We welcome the return of Mr. Shorsh Ismail, the Minister of Peshmerga Affairs, to his position in the ministry. This is a significant and necessary step that will contribute to the successful implementation of reforms and the reunification of the Peshmerga forces. We wish him success and assure him of our full support.

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## **President Nechirvan Barzani is closely monitoring the devastating incident that occurred in Soran**

President Nechirvan Barzani spoke tonight with Mr. Halgurd Najib, Supervisor of Soran Independent Administration, regarding the tragic fire incident that took place in a building in Soran city. The incident regrettably led to the loss of multiple lives of residents and inflicted injuries upon others.

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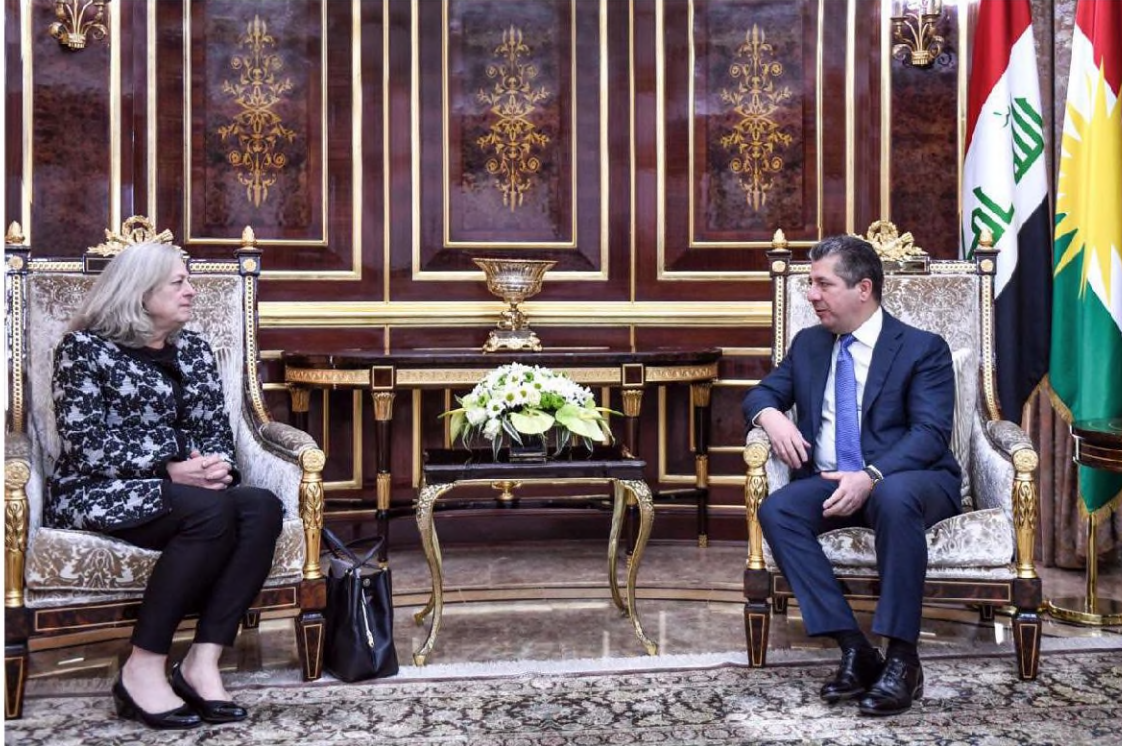


## **KRG Prime Minister Welcomes Iraq's Federal Prime Minister**

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) welcomed

Iraq's Federal Prime Minister, Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani at Erbil International Airport.  
Kurdistan Regional Government Council of Ministers44001 ErbilKurdistan RegionIraq  
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### **KRG Prime Minister Meets with US Ambassador to Iraq**

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) held a meeting with Alina Romanowski, the US Ambassador to Iraq. The meeting highlighted the critical importance of disbursing the Kurdistan Region's financial entitlements, especially in light of the comprehensive data and information provided by the KRG to the Iraqi government.

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## **KRG Prime Minister Stands Firm on the Protection of Rights for Ethnic and Religious Components**

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) reiterated the government's commitment to upholding the rights of all ethnic and religious components in the Kurdistan Region.

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## **KRG Prime Minister Hosts Diplomats from Iraq and Kurdistan Region**

Prime Minister, Masrour Barzani, hosted a Christmas and New Year's Dinner Reception

for ambassadors, consul generals and diplomatic envoys based in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region, marking the Christmas and New Year holidays.

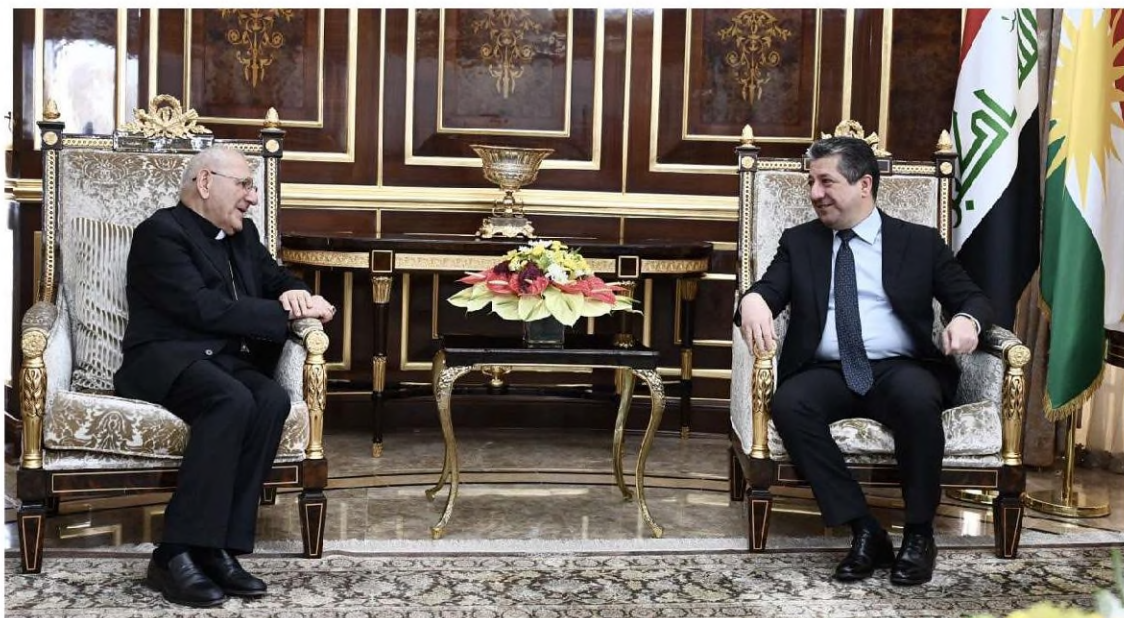
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### **KRG Prime Minister Meets with the UN's Secretary-General at COP28**

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani met with António Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General on the sidelines of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai. Discussions focused on developments in Iraq and conflict in the Middle East.

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## KRG Prime Minister Welcomes Cardinal Sako of the Chaldean Catholic Church

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) cordially received Cardinal Louis Raphaël Sako, the Patriarch of the Chaldean Catholic Church in Iraq and worldwide. Cardinal Sako shared insights from his recent visit to the Holy See, where he met with His Holiness Pope Francis.

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## KRG announces first honey exports to Qatar

As part of the KRG's agenda to diversify the economy, support farmers, and empower the private sector, two tons of Kurdistan's premium honey were delivered to Qatar by air today. An additional ton has been sold to local and national retailers in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq, further supporting Kurdistan's hardworking beekeepers.

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## **KRG Prime Minister Inaugurates Van Steel Iron Factory, Emphasises Economic Growth and Cooperation**

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) inaugurated the Van Steel Iron Factory in Erbil. The factory, operated by Galiawa Group, is now the largest iron and steel facility in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq.

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## **KRG Prime Minister Reiterates Support for Kurdistan Region's**

## Farmers

Prime Minister, Masrour Barzani, officially inaugurated the Distar Factory, a cutting-edge wheat flour mill, located in Domiz, Duhok Governorate. During his speech, Prime Minister Barzani emphasised the KRG's dedication to enhancing the agricultural sector and securing food security as top priorities.

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## KRG Prime Minister Initiates Key Industrial Projects in Zakho

Prime Minister Masrour Barzani of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) launched two pivotal projects in Zakho: an Industrial Area and a Recycling Factory. In his speech, Prime Minister Barzani emphasised the projects' roles in job creation and economic growth in the Kurdistan Region.

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 **Kurdistan in the Media** 

### **Peshmerga minister returns to office following over a year of absence**

Kurdistan Region Minister of Peshmerga Affairs Shorish Ismael on Monday officially returned back to the office after over a year of absence...

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### **Kurdistan's Fallen Crosses**

For two long years, the cross laid on the ground, a symbol of the destruction caused by ISIS. However, on one fateful day in November 2016, a group...

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### **Now is the time to unlock the Kurdistan Region's green energy potential**

As we approach the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) next week in Dubai, it is advisable for the leaders of the Kurdistan....

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### **Baghdad has a 'power-sharing and trust issue,' says American scholar David Romano**

Dr. David Romano, a professor at the Thomas G. Strong School for Middle East Politics at Missouri State University, on Tuesday told...

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### **KRG, Iraqi government to conduct census next year**

The Kurdistan Region and Iraq will conduct a census in 2024 through mutual cooperation, according to Serwan Mohammed, the President...

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### **Unbelievable Kurdistan**

I have been leading fellow adventurers for nearly half a century to explore over 100 countries. While all of these places have been fascinating, none has...

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### **The Diplomat with a Philanthropic Mission**

While politics might evoke controversy for most people, there is one exceptional politician who defies these stereotypes: Ziyad Raooof, the Kurdistan...

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### **Barzani Charity Foundation to send humanitarian aid to Gaza**

The BCF head Musa Ahmed held a joint press conference with Nazmi Hazouri, the Consul General of Palestine in the Kurdistan Region, on Wednesday...

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### **Kurdistan and the United States: ISIS Defeated, What Happens Now?**

The United States has fostered a relationship with the Kurds in Iraq through humanitarian and military assistance under a strong partnership built on...

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### **Iraq to discuss Kurdistan oil contract modification in December**

Iraqi oil officials will meet representatives of international oil companies and Iraqi Kurdish officials in early December to discuss contract changes central to...

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### Construction of Duhok International Airport resumes

The construction of Duhok International Airport has resumed after an indefinite halt, according to a statement from the Kurdistan Regional Government...

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### PM Barzani opens cancer treatment center in Duhok

Kurdistan Region Prime Minister Masrour Barzani on Monday opened a Radiation Cancer Treatment Center in Duhok. He underlined that 70 billion dinars are...

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