

= Lebanon in the Eurovision Song Contest =

Lebanon has never participated in the Eurovision Song Contest . The country 's broadcasting organization , Télé Liban , was set to make the country 's debut at the Eurovision Song Contest 2005 with the song " Quand tout s 'enfuit " performed by Aline Lahoud , but withdrew due to Lebanon 's laws banning the broadcast of Israeli content .

= = Internal selection = =

On October 21 , 2004 , Ibrahim El Khoury , President Director General of Télé Liban , stated that Lebanon intended to make its debut at the Eurovision Song Contest 2005 in Kiev , Ukraine . On November 3 , 2004 , it was announced that Aline Lahoud was internally selected by the network to represent Lebanon . Her orient @-@ occident song " Quand tout s 'enfuit " , sung in French and written by Jad Rahbani and Romeo Lahoud , was chosen in mid @-@ February . Lahoud was scheduled to present her song in the semi @-@ final held on May 19 , 2005 .

= = Withdrawal = =

On December 15 , 2004 , Télé Liban announced that financial constraints forced them to withdraw from the contest , and denied reports that it was due to political conflicts with Israel . However , five days later , the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) reached an agreement with Télé Liban and Lebanon was put on the official list of participants .

In early March 2005 , the official Lebanese Eurovision Song Contest website did not list Israel as a participant . After the EBU asked Télé Liban to resolve the issue within 24 hours or face disqualification , the site removed the complete list of participants and replaced the page with a link to Eurovision.tv , the official Eurovision website .

Later that month , the EBU asked Télé @-@ Liban to assure that they would broadcast the entire contest , including the Israeli entry , without interruption . Télé Liban could not guarantee that request , so on March 18 , 2005 , it once again announced its withdrawal from the contest . Lebanese legislation prohibited the broadcast of Israeli content on Lebanese television networks . Télé @-@ Liban wrote on its website that it " is not permitted to broadcast the performance of the Israeli participant , thereby breaching the rules of the Eurovision Song Contest 2005 " and forcing its withdrawal . Since Télé Liban withdrew almost three months after the December 15 " no consequence " withdrawal deadline , the broadcaster was penalized , losing its participation fee and being given a three @-@ year ban .

= = Post @-@ 2005 = =

With the three @-@ year ban , Télé Liban was not eligible to enter the Eurovision Song Contest again until the 2009 Contest .

In 2007 , Lebanon @-@ born singer Mika , stated that he was interested in entering the contest for Lebanon in 2008 , but for one of the other Lebanese television stations not serving a ban , such as the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation International or Future Television , either of which could have joined the EBU . His participation never came to be and the country has not made another attempt to join the contest following the conclusion of its broadcaster 's ban .