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# Foreign citizens told to leave Lebanon as war fears surge

SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN, CANADA, FRANCE  
LATEST TO ISSUE EVACUATION WARNING

DUBAI  
BY STEPHEN N. R.  
Senior Associate Editor

With growing fears of an all-out war between Israel and Iran-backed allies, more countries yesterday called on their citizens to leave Lebanon, with France warning of “a highly volatile” situation. Saudi Arabia, France, Canada, and Jordan were among the latest governments to call for their citizens to leave Lebanon immediately.

The killing on Wednesday of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, hours after the Israeli assassination in Beirut of Hezbollah’s military chief Fuad Shukur, has sparked vows of vengeance from Iran and other

Tehran-backed armed groups, including Hezbollah, and sent regional tensions skyrocketing. Beirut airport was packed with travellers waiting in long lines as airlines have cancelled flights.

Analysts told AFP a joint but measured action from Iran and its allies was likely, while Tehran said it expects Hezbollah to hit deeper inside Israel and no longer be confined to military targets. The US said it would move warships and fighter jets to the region. Asked if he thought Iran would stand down, US President Joe Biden said, “I hope so. I don’t know.”

Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi made a rare visit to Tehran where he met Iran’s acting top diplomat Ali Bagheri for “consultations”.

SEE ALSO P9



AFP

## UK GRAPPLES WITH WORST RIOTS IN 13 YEARS

Protesters are detained in Nottingham, central England, on Saturday during the ‘Enough is Enough’ demonstration held in reaction to the fatal stabbings in Southport on July 29. UK authorities faced growing pressure yesterday to put an end to England’s worst rioting in 13 years after disturbances linked to child murders and involving far-right agitators flared across the country. SEE ALSO P10

## New fee for EV charging in UAE

DUBAI  
BY KHITAM AL AMIR  
Chief News Editor

The UAE Cabinet yesterday introduced a new fee structure for electric vehicle (EV) charging services through Cabinet Resolution No. 81 of 2024.

According to the new resolution, the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure and other relevant authorities will collect fees for EV charging services. The fee for Express Charging Service will be a minimum of Dh1.20 plus VAT per kWh, while for Slow Charging Service it will be a minimum of Dh0.70 plus VAT per kWh.

The resolution outlines that federal authorities will collect the fees using methods determined by the Ministry of Finance. In addition, local authorities will collect the fees in accordance with the mechanisms established at the emirate level.

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