

# National security in Lebanon: security approach

Nizar Abdel Kader

I think it is not possible to accept Hezbollah's partnership if the principle of national sovereignty was to be respected. I support the project "A country without fences" that aims at adopting a Lebanese defensive strategy that deals with all internal and external challenges and risks.

We are living in a country with no President, which means that our nation is unguarded internally and externally against all types of threats and risks, dragging Lebanon to the regional and international conflict arena. The danger of this phase requires supporting the policy of the Government instead of crippling it, in order to adopt a new security vision as well as all the needed measures to protect Lebanon. Lebanon cannot affect the dynamics of the regional conflict, yet this does not mean to give up on the election of a President. These steps require immunizing the political decision and adopting a comprehensive security vision through assessing all the internal and external dangers. These dangers include the security of the borders with Syria and all the northern borders, in addition to studying and analyzing all these dangers and practical steps that should be taken, without forgetting the need to reform and activate the security sector, which is a comprehensive process that requires a comprehensive strategy.

We should focus as well on the need for legislations on security. We should focus on the need for a national security council that has the power to implement its decisions. We need a citizenship law, a terrorism law, a new law for parties and associations as well as a law that controls the external financing of parties and associations. We have to bring balance again and readopt the law of military service. We cannot ensure relative balance between all citizens unless through the military service. Cancelling military service was aimed at weakening the Lebanese army. We also need a body that supervises communication and puts it in service of the State. Lebanon needs to rebuild the State institutions. Lebanon is facing challenges and cannot allow the continuation of this policy of erosion. We need to rebuild the institutions of the State and adopt a defensive strategy through which the Lebanese State shall regain its sovereignty, and be the State that guarantees the participation of all.