

Lebanon's presidential timebomb

With pro-Syrian President Emile Lahoud's term due to expire Nov 23, the 60-day countdown to appointing a successor begins when Parliament reconvenes Tuesday. Failure to find a suitable candidate could lead to a power vacuum, with Lahoud threatening to appoint a rival government

Mainly Sunni Muslim party Druze Christian Shia

GOVERNMENT COALITION 65 seats

PRO-SYRIAN OPPOSITION 62 seats



Future Movement 36
Supports Prime Minister **Fouad Saniora**. Wants to replace Lahoud with anti-Syrian candidate. Will assume executive powers if no candidate found

Tripoli bloc 3



Democratic Gathering 15
Led by Druze chief **Walid Jumblatt**



Lebanese Forces 6 Led by former warlord **Samir Geagea**
Kataeb 2: Antoine Ghanem murdered
Others 3

Amal 15: Led by Speaker **Nabih Berri**. Has called for consensus candidate – giving opposition more leverage to win veto power in Cabinet



Hezbollah 14
Led by fiery cleric **Hassan Nasrallah**



Baath Party 1
Syrian National Party 2

Others 8
Change and Reform Movement 22
Former President **Michel Aoun** vying for second term



PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: Requires two-thirds of vote in Parliament.

However, Opposition insists at least two thirds of total MPs are required to vote while ruling coalition says only a simple majority must attend session