

The dialogue comes at a significant time of U.S. policy formation and implementation on the Middle East as Lebanon and the Levant face acute geopolitical pressures. Lebanon's religious diversity was recognized as both a strength and a vulnerability, with expert speakers stressing the need to protect endangered communities, civil society, local governance, and rule of law. Regional religious freedom is viewed as the intersectional priority between human rights and long-term security.



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Representing multiple communities and groups in Lebanon, almost 20 participants shared their analysis with grounded data and evidence to help shape more responsive and effective approaches to advancing freedom of religion and belief and strengthening pluralism, resilience, and regional stability. Notably, high-charged moments in the discussion opened the floor for experts to share their profound fears and disagreements.

ZPO board member Michel Zovighian stated: “Creating safe spaces for rigorous and respectful dialogue bridges the gap between analysis and local expertise, setting the stage for solutions, compromises, and sustainable opportunities.”

Lynn Zovighian, founder of ZPO, said: "It is essential that Washington carefully listens to the legitimate and urgent concerns shared today to partner with local communities to instill the necessary conditions for religious freedoms and a sustainable and safe future worth living for all."

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## About the Syriac League

The Syriac League, established in 1975, is a Lebanese non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization whose purpose is to serve as the voice of the Syriac community and the Christian minorities in Lebanon, and to bring together people who believe in the League's cultural, social, and humanitarian goals.

Facebook page: [Syriac League](#)

## About the Zovighian Public Office

Established in 2015, the Zovighian Public Office (ZPO) partners with communities and survivors of atrocity crimes in the Middle East and South Caucasus. Through high-integrity research, cultural creation, and humanitarian diplomacy, we uphold truth, restore dignity, and pursue justice and accountability.

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publicoffice@zovighian.org  
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