

World leaders hold aid summit to help Beirut

11th August, 2020



French President Emmanuel Macron hosted a summit on Sunday to encourage other world leaders to help Beirut. The virtual conference was held in response to the catastrophic explosion that devastated Lebanon's

capital city last week. President Macron said the Lebanese people needed aid immediately and directly. He said: "We must act quickly and efficiently so that this aid goes directly to where it is needed. Lebanon's future is at stake." The conference was co-hosted by the UN and secured pledges of assistance from dozens of countries, including Lebanon's neighbours, countries from Europe and Asia, and the USA. The international donors have so far pledged \$300 million to help Beirut.

The European Commission promised over \$68 million to help Beirut. An EC spokesperson said: "As needs rise, we are providing humanitarian support to hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable people." The funding will go directly to charities and UN agencies. The Arab state of Qatar pledged the biggest donation from a single country. It is donating \$50 million, while Kuwait offered \$40 million. There was also spiritual assistance for the people of Lebanon. The head of the Roman Catholic Church, Pope Francis, made a plea saying: "We must all work for the good of this beloved country." He added: "I also renew my appeal for generous help from the international community."

Sources: thenational.ae / france24.com / bbc.com

Writing

The whole world should give billions of dollars to help Beirut. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

summit / world leaders / conference / catastrophic / explosion / at stake / donors / humanitarian / support / vulnerable / spiritual / assistance / beloved / generous

True / False

- a) The French President hosted a summit in Paris for world leaders. T / F
- b) The French President said Beirut needed immediate help. T / F
- c) The summit was co-hosted by the Arab League. T / F
- d) The international community has pledged \$300 million thus far. T / F
- e) The European Commission is helping millions of vulnerable people. T / F
- f) Qatar is the biggest individual donor country. T / F
- g) The head of the Catholic Church is offering spiritual assistance. T / F
- h) Pope Francis appealed to the generosity of countries. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. hosted | a. appeal |
| 2. virtual | b. at risk |
| 3. catastrophic | c. promised |
| 4. at stake | d. online |
| 5. pledged | e. helpless |
| 6. humanitarian | f. calamitous |
| 7. vulnerable | g. big-hearted |
| 8. donation | h. put on |
| 9. plea | i. contribution |
| 10. generous | j. compassionate |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about world summits?
- b) How much good will this world summit do for Beirut?
- c) What do you know about Beirut?
- d) What do you know about the explosion?
- e) What do you know about Lebanon?
- f) What kind of help does Beirut need?
- g) Is the world doing enough for Beirut?
- h) Where does the aid need to go?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. French President Emmanuel Macron hosted | a. hosted by the UN |
| 2. virtual | b. stake |
| 3. held in response to the catastrophic | c. for the people |
| 4. Lebanon's future is at | d. conference |
| 5. The conference was co- | e. vulnerable people |
| 6. providing humanitarian | f. for the good |
| 7. the most | g. explosion |
| 8. spiritual assistance | h. support |
| 9. We must all work | i. community |
| 10. help from the international | j. a summit |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What kind of humanitarian support does Lebanon need?
- What advice do you have for Lebanon's leaders?
- What advice do you have for the people of Beirut?
- How generous is the international community?
- What do you think Beirut will be like in six months?
- Would you like to visit Lebanon?
- What questions would you like to ask Lebanon's leader?

Spelling

- ergcaoune other world leaders
- The tuavrli conference
- to the oaciphrcats explosion
- quickly and efcnfietyil
- casinetass from dozens of countries
- so far lpgdde \$300 million
- anamiinhurta support
- thousands of the most neavrlube people
- go directly to tacrshiei and UN agencies
- It was also utpiasirl
- made a epal
- my appeal for nuoerges help

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. d	3. f	4. b	5. c
6. j	7. e	8. i	9. a	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Spiritual Support

You think the people of Beirut need spiritual support most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their support isn't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): heavy machinery, food or electricity.

Role B – Heavy Machinery

You think the people of Beirut need heavy machinery most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their support isn't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): spiritual support, food or electricity.

Role C – Food

You think the people of Beirut need food most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their support isn't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): heavy machinery, spiritual support or electricity.

Role D – Electricity

You think the people of Beirut need electricity most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their support isn't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): heavy machinery, food or spiritual support.

Speaking – Assistance

Rank these with your partner. Put the assistance Beirut most needs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| • Spiritual support | • Food |
| • Heavy machinery | • Electricity |
| • Engineers | • Money |
| • Medical supplies | • Blankets |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.