

UAE to Reopen Its Embassy in Damascus Within Few Weeks - Report

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The UAE is going to reopen its embassy in the Syrian capital of Damascus within the upcoming two weeks, diplomatic sources told the Lebanon news outlet Debate on November 5.

The Lebanese news outlet didn't provide further information on the matter. However, several Syrian pro-government sources confirmed on November 7 that the Abu Dhabi embassy in Damascus is undergoing maintenance.

Two months ago, the Lebanese al-Akhbar newspaper revealed that Mohammed bin Hamad al-Shamsi, a deputy director of the UAE's Supreme Council for National Security, visited Damascus and met with General Mohammed Dib Zaitoun, head of the Syrian General Intelligence Directorate. The two officials reportedly discussed <u>the possible reopening of the</u> <u>UAE embassy in the Syrian capital</u>.

Prior to the thousands of UAE-backed Free Syrian Army (FSA) fighters in central and southern Syria joined the reconciliation process. The step was encouraged by Syrian opposition figures close to Abu Dhabi.

According to several Syria and Lebanese sources, many Arab countries, besides the UAE, are planning to reopen their embassies in Syria in the near future. This shows that Syria may began to regain its diplomatic position in the region.

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