



[Syria Continues Its Campaign to Revive Diplomatic Relationships in the Arab World](#)

The recent meetings between Syrian Foreign Minister Faisal Mikdad and officials from Algeria and Tunisia continue to suggest that Syria is making efforts to rebuild diplomatic ties in the Arab world. This is significant because Syria has been isolated from the Arab world since the harsh suppression of large-scale protests against President Bashar Assad's authority in 2011, which resulted in Syria's expulsion from the Arab League. One of the few Arab nations that maintained diplomatic ties with Syria throughout the civil conflict was Algeria, and Mikdad's recent visit to Algeria was aimed at strengthening the bilateral partnership between the two nations. Mikdad also praised Algeria's assistance following the catastrophic earthquake in Syria and neighboring Turkey. The Foreign Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia led both nations to declare they were working to resume flights and reopen embassies for the first time in more than ten years, indicating a possible thaw in relations between the two countries. Similarly, Assad is due to go to Tunisia to reopen the Syrian embassy there, and Tunisian President Kais Saied has instructed the nation's foreign ministry to name a new ambassador to Syria. Overall, these developments suggest that Syria's neighbors are beginning to move toward amity with the country as Assad expands his hold over the majority of the nation. While the recent regional leaders' summit in Saudi Arabia pledged to find a political solution to the Syrian conflict, they refrained from supporting Syria's reabsorption into the Arab League. However, Mikdad's recent visits to Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia, as well as his attempt to mend relations with Egypt, indicate that Syria is making efforts to rebuild diplomatic ties in the Arab world.

These recent meetings between Syria and members of the Arab League signify a potential shift in the political landscape of the Middle East. Despite Syria's international isolation following the 2011 uprising and subsequent civil conflict, the nation is taking steps to mend ties with its Arab neighbors. These renewing relationships will significantly blunt any attempts by the international community to put pressure on Assad to improve human rights. Sanctions and other measures will not be as effective and Syria will have more political clout in resisting them. Mikdad's visit to Saudi Arabia also resulted in an agreement to resume flights and reopen embassies after more than a decade of strained relations. These diplomatic initiatives suggest that Syria's neighbors are beginning to reconsider their stance on the nation and recognize its expanding hold over the majority of the country. Given the extensive power that Saudi Arabia has in Middle East politics, a renewed relationship between it and Syria could also open the door for Syria to begin to renew its relationship with other countries in the Middle East. As such, these meetings hold significance for the future of the Middle East and may pave the way for further dialogue and cooperation among nations in the region.

This situation gives rise to significant implications for the broader dynamic in the Middle East. After years of international isolation, these diplomatic initiatives suggest a potential shift in regional attitudes towards Syria, as more Arab nations begin to explore ways to collaborate with the nation. This could potentially have ripple effects throughout the region, as other nations that have been hesitant to

engage with Syria may reconsider their stance. This shift in attitudes could also have implications for ongoing conflicts in the region, including the Syrian conflict, which has seen involvement from several regional and global powers. By opening up lines of communication and potentially working towards a resolution to the Syrian conflict, there is a possibility that regional tensions could be eased and conflicts resolved through dialogue rather than continued military action. Additionally, renewed diplomatic ties between Syria and other Arab nations could have economic benefits for the region, as increased trade and investment could lead to increased prosperity and stability. It is also possible that increased cooperation from Syria allowed Assad to act with more impunity.

While the recent diplomatic initiatives between Syria and other Arab nations are certainly significant in terms of regional politics and economics, it is important to also consider their potential impact on the humanitarian situation in Syria and the broader implications for democracy in the region. The Syrian conflict has had devastating humanitarian consequences, with millions of people displaced and countless lives lost. While increased diplomatic engagement between Syria and its neighbors could potentially lead to increased humanitarian aid and improved conditions for those affected, however, in the past, much of the humanitarian aid allotted to Syria for relief was siphoned off and hoarded by the Assad regime. It is possible that the re-engagement of Arab nations with Syria could have positive implications for regional stability and economic development, it is important to consider the potential impact on democracy and human rights in the region. Any such engagement should prioritize the promotion and protection of democratic values and the rights of all citizens, regardless of political affiliation.

While the recent diplomatic initiatives between Syria and other Arab nations are certainly noteworthy, it is important to approach them with a nuanced and critical perspective that considers both their potential benefits and risks. Ultimately, any such initiatives should prioritize the needs and rights of the Syrian people and the promotion of democracy and human rights in the region.