
POSITIVE SAUDI ARABIA-IRAQ RELATIONS REQUIRE DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL TRUST

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The past few weeks have brought positive developments in Iraqi-Saudi relations. These promising signs began with the Saudi Arabian leadership last month congratulating the newly appointed Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi on gaining the confidence of the Iraqi Parliament. Subsequently, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman spoke with Al-Kadhimi on the phone, discussing several bilateral and regional issues. Crown Prince Mohammed even invited the Iraqi PM to visit Saudi Arabia. While the invitation may be a diplomatic gesture, it was warmly welcomed and sincerely felt on both sides.

Then, last week, Iraqs Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister of Finance and Oil Ali Allawi arrived in Riyadh, where he met several officials. During the visit, Allawi had discussions with Saudi ministers on several issues of mutual concern, as well as on the current state of relations between the two countries.

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