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## IRAQ TAPS KRIKOR DER-HAGOPIAN AS FIRST ARMENIAN CHRISTIAN AMBASSADOR TO US

- 25.06.2026

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Al-Monitor (23 June 2026)

Amberin Zaman

Iraq has nominated Krikor Der-Hagopian, an Armenian Christian adviser to Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi, as ambassador to Washington. Regional diplomats confirmed the nomination to Al-Monitor, describing it as part of a broader effort by Baghdad to recalibrate relations with the United States.

Der-Hagopian, a US-educated Iraqi official who has served in numerous roles, including as an adviser to former President Barham Saleh and to the last prime minister, Mohamed Shia al-Sudani, is awaiting formal consent from the Trump administration before taking up his post. If confirmed, the Armenian Christian would become Iraq's first non-Shiite ambassador to Washington in decades.

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Kaynak/Source: