An Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) delegation walked out of a meeting regarding government formation with Prime Minister (PM)-designee Mohammed Tawfiq Allawi in Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) delegation walked out of a meeting regarding government formation with Prime Minister (PM)-designee Mohammed Tawfiq Allawi in Baghdad with Mohammed Al-Hallousi, an Iraqi Forces Alliance member and the speaker of Parliament, on February 24.

Iraqi forces leader Abu Ali al-Haboubi and his deputy, leader of the Islamic Conquest Alliance and Badr Organization leader, reportedly met in Baghdad with Hadi al-Ameri, the deputy chairman of the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), to discuss the U.S.-Iraqi partnership, assurances that Allawi would hold early elections in Iraq, and other regional issues.

The two also discussed the U.S.-Iraqi partnership, assurances that Allawi would hold early elections in Iraq, according to the State Department readout. Pompeo also urged Allawi to “resolve differences” with Kurdish and Sunni political blocs to ensure continued political success. The two also discussed the U.S.-Iraqi partnership, with Pompeo stressing the need to protect U.S. personnel and forces in Iraq as well as peaceful protesters.

Key Takeaway: Iran’s inability to contain the Coronavirus allowed the disease to spread to Iraq, whose health institutions are poorly equipped to manage the potential pandemic. Iran imports billions of dollars in cross border trade from Iran per year. Restricted movement will lead to increased prices on basic necessities.

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