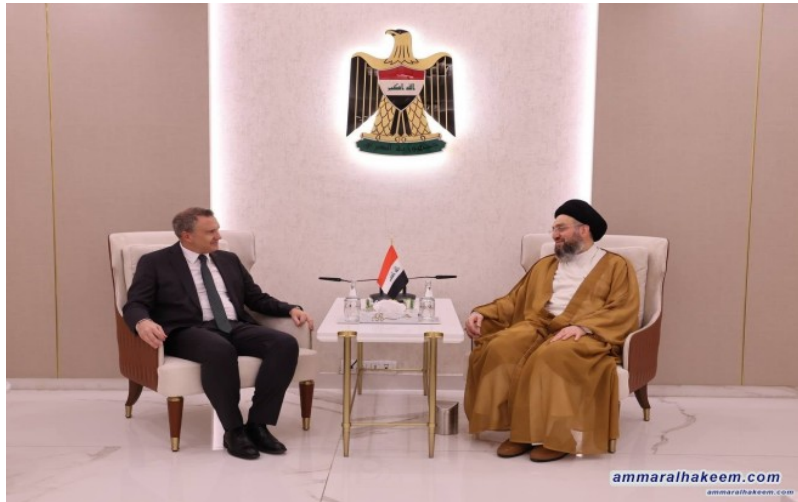


Sayyid Al-Hakeem: to Respect Iraq's Sovereignty, Openness to All Base for Balanced Relations



H.E. Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received at his office in Baghdad His Excellency the Turkish Ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Anil Bora Inan, and discussed with him recent developments in the region and the role of regional countries in de-escalation and restoring stability, while the two sides also addressed bilateral relations and ways to develop them by leveraging shared interests and promising opportunities between the two countries.

H.E. renewed his call for ending the ongoing conflict in the region and restoring stability, considering dialogue the optimal path to achieving this, noting that Iraq is among the countries most affected by this crisis due to the decline in its oil production and exports, which represent the largest share of its budget, expressing his hope for a near end to this crisis given its impact on the global economy, and calling on the countries of the region to play a greater role in achieving de-escalation and restoring stability.

H.E. stressed the importance of investing in the promising opportunities between Baghdad and Ankara, considering the Development Road one of the most important of these opportunities, given its significance in transforming Iraq into a hub connecting East and West, while noting the importance of granting Iraq a fair share of water.

H.E. affirmed Iraq's continued progress on the project of consolidating weapons under state authority through dialogue and mutual understanding, stressing the importance of adhering to the constitution, which stipulates that Iraq shall not be a corridor, base, or launching point for threatening neighboring countries, while also stressing the necessity of respecting Iraq's sovereignty and its pursuit of openness toward all.