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Civil society activists press politicians to reconcile

BEIRUT: A group of civil society activists launched on Saturday the campaign "Enough - Together for Lebanon's Salvation," the latest in a series of efforts by civil society groups to push bickering politicians to reconcile. The "emergency campaign," as the activists called it, comes amid international and local efforts to help the Lebanese political leaders - feuding over everything from Parliament to the government to the presidency - reach a deal. On Sunday French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner warned of the danger of violence if the nine-month-old political standoff were not resolved through negotiation.

In a statement released following the launch of the campaign, the activists demanded politicians reach a political deal that would lay the foundation for a strong new country, reject violence and armed manifestations, stop all forms of sectarian tension and resume dialogue as soon as possible.

The activists said the Lebanese people would hold the political class responsible for any "collapse and is waiting for a decisive position from you."

The campaign will collect signatures on a petition to garner as much support as possible and will hold a series of events to pursue its goals.

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