

Astana Platform Leader Wants to Engage P5 States in Talks on Syria Constitution

12:23 GMT 25.04.2017



© Sputnik / Michael Alaeddin / Go to the mediabank

Subscribe



1 hour ago

Burkina Faso Strengthens Ties With Russian Media in Response to W

2 hours ago

China's Intelligent Computing Power To Grow Over 40% in 2025, Dri

4 hours ago

GT Investigates: US Weaponizes Tariffs Against Allies

Randa Kassis gestures during a press conference following a new round of negotiations of peace talks on Syria at the United Nations Office in Geneva on March 23, 2016

© AFP 2023 / FABRICE COFFRINI

"We have contacts with the American administration. We are going to meet with them, maybe in the end of next month, between May and June. And with France – we are going to wait until May 7 and then start to work with the new

government. They are also a P5 state, it's urgent to work with them," Kassis added.

The March seminar reviewed Russia's draft for [Syria's new constitution](#) that was proposed for consideration to the Syrian delegations at Astana talks in January. Recommendations that it worked out stipulate that Syria needs to be a parliamentary republic with decentralized powers and a secular state, that the law of Islam shall not be the only source of legislation in the country, and that the Kurdish and Syriac languages need to be recognized as official alongside Arabic in the region of El Gezira.

Progress on Syria Impossible With De Mistura as UN Special Envoy

Turkish Military Confirms Airstrikes Against Kurdish YPG in Northern Syria, Iraq

25 April 2017, 09:53 GMT



Randa Kassis told Sputnik that she believes there can be no progress on the Syrian settlement so long as Staffan de Mistura holds the mandate as UN Special Envoy for Syria.

The future of de Mistura's mandate was a subject to rumors during [the latest round of Syria talks in Geneva](#) . His contract officially ended on March 31, the last day of negotiations. There was no official statement from the UN secretary-general or de Mistura himself on whether he would

continue his role as the UN special envoy, but multiple sources told Sputnik that de Mistura's mandate had been prolonged for six more months.

"We are not going to have any progress with the mandate of de Mistura. So we have two choices – to work not with the UN, but alone with Syrians and other countries, the countries of P5. When the UN is ready to replace de Mistura, we will have this work to present it to the UN. The second choice is just to cancel the role of the UN if they insist to keep de Mistura on this work," Kassis said.

Earlier in April, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Gennady Gatilov told Sputnik that Moscow supports the continuation of de Mistura's work and believes he can achieve positive results on Syrian settlement with the support of the international community.

Newsfeed

Syrian Peace Talks in Astana

Syria

Randa Kassis

Staffan de Mistura

The Syrian war

constitution

The United Nations (UN)



0



0



0



0



0



0

Follow us on Telegram to find out all the latest international news

Follow

