Lebanon is three years into a financial and an economic crisis that is among the worst the world has ever seen. The country’s crisis has gone from bad to worse and no one is listening to people’s distress calls. The population is suffering on a daily basis from lack of medication and medical assistance, excessive rise of fuel prices, and bad alimentation. Babies are starving to death, teenagers are depressed, lots of parents are unemployed and elderlies are dying on the doors of hospitals. One third of the citizens are living in extreme poverty, more and more young Lebanese seek to emigrate. Since the revolution of October 17th 2019, one parliamentary election took place, two governments were formed, and the young generation in Lebanon is still protesting for a better life that the old traumatized generation couldn’t have. Members of our Lebanese society including its men, women, teens and elderlies used to have no voice. Hundreds of protests were violated on rallies. Shot, threatened, kidnapped and assaulted, the survivors never gave up. The Lebanese youth will keep fighting and do whatever it takes to bring back our beloved country to life. The main cause of what is happening in Lebanon is the lack of connection between the people and those with power. This is why, our upcoming president must hear our voices and get to know more about our needs as our future depends on their awaited decisions and acts. A new Lebanese presidency is going to have a huge impact on the country’s crisis. In fact, the person elected as the president of Lebanon will face many challenges in order to achieve a recovery of the country. What is the Lebanese society expecting from the future president? The next Lebanese president is expected to amend the electoral law, rase the wage rate, support social services, contribute to public schools and universities and enhance public safety.

Firstly, amending the electoral law is an effective way to put an end to the corruption. It is necessary to make eighteen the legal age of voting. In other words, the older generations are strongly clinging to the Lebanese politicians that have been ruling our country for approximately thirty years and are the primary cause of the crisis. However, adjective youngsters totally support nonpartisan democracy as they are completely aware of the harsh effects of political parties taking over the country. In fact, the participation of young Lebanese in the parliamentary elections will indirectly help with forming a non-corrupt government. In Lebanon, a regime free from party affiliation is the only way to exercise democracy. Secondly, poverty is one of the cruelest issues facing the Lebanese population. Due to the excessive rise of the dollar rate, the Lebanese Lira is losing its value. Therefore, the minimum wage rate still stands at 675,000LL per month, translating to a meager $24. This small amount of money isn’t enough to buy food, medicine, fuel or any other basic human need. Therefore, raising the minimum wage rate is the first and most important step to take in order to give our people access to their slightest needs. This procedure can be applied after a cooperation between our president and the minister of finance. In addition to that, all social services sectors in Lebanon are slowly collapsing. On one hand, Lebanon’s healthcare system is disintegrating; people are dying from easily treatable and even completely avoidable causes just because hospitals don’t have electricity, supplies or staff, or even because patients can’t afford medication. Not to mention the shortage of essential drugs and medicaments. Actually, after he was refused to be treated at several hospitals, the two-year-old Lebanese baby Moemen Khaled al Mohammad died in his father’s arms. The new president is expected to commit in delivering medical essentials to the most vulnerable people at first, then to the population as a whole. The president can work with the minister of health in such cases in order to find the best resolutions to the problem. On the other hand, the country’s economic crisis has left soldiers suffering and hungry. In fact, the country’s armed forces are the only barrier left separating it from a complete collapse. “The Lebanese army is the pillar in Lebanon and ensures that the security situation in the country doesn’t degenerate” said an official at the French armed forces ministry. In this case, it is awaited from the upcoming head of country to ask for the help and support of developed countries and allies to the Lebanese soldiers as they are the most affected by the situation of the country. Thirdly, Lebanon’s educational system is in danger. The country’s crisis is forcing youngsters to drop out of school in order to reduce spendings on education to buy basic food. On one side, with the rise of the dollar rate, private school fees are going higher and higher; parents aren’t able to afford their kids’ education anymore. On the other side, some public schools are closing, others aren’t providing their students the needed level of education because of the teachers’ strikes. It is very well known that public schools are much more affordable than private ones. So, committing to public schools and helping them straighten up can save our young and future generations. Moreover, Lebanon is losing thousands of its university students. In fact, 18,630 Lebanese collegians are studying abroad. And this is either because studying abroad costs less than studying in private Lebanese universities, or because the Lebanese University is slowly imploding. It is extremely important in such cases to help revive the Lebanese University for it not to lose its reputation as it used to be one of the country’s best universities yet the most affordable one. Finally, our beloved country is suffering from severe security problems that are threatening its people’s lives. In point of fact, Tayona Sarraf, a seven years old Lebanese girl was killed by stray bullets while she was at her home in Miniara. In addition to that, heavy clashes involving exchange of live fire are taking place in many Lebanese regions. Also, assaults with firearms are very common in our country. Weapons that are beyond state control are very usual in Lebanon and often used in arguments that quickly escalate into violence. Our future president can make Lebanon a much safer place by enacting simple laws that make guns safer and harder to get. Rather than putting pressure on our army and spending money on metal detectors instead of using it to contribute to hospitals, schools and universities, our laws need to make it harder to buy a firearm.

Summarizing, corruption is invading Lebanon and tearing his people to pieces. What is happening in the country can be easily called a humanitarian catastrophe. Many Lebanese babies and elderlies died on the hospitals’ doors like Moemen did. Many Lebanese parents buried their souls with their babies just like Tayona’s grieving parents did. Others were left heartbroken after their loved ones left the country looking for a better future. Many beautiful Lebanese cities were left distorted by gunshots and explosions. However, there is light despite all the darkness. Hope is the pillar that’s holding up our Lebanese society. Our hope is in the upcoming president. “I swear by Almighty God to observe the constitution and the laws of the Lebanese Nation and to maintain the independence of Lebanon and its territorial integrity”, a few words that once said everything might change. Even though we’re being continually disappointed by those in power, we still believe that the oath will save us. We need our president not to leave us going through the hardships alone. The mystery remains witnessed in our short lifespan where a new president must save our country and help us live in peace and prosperity.