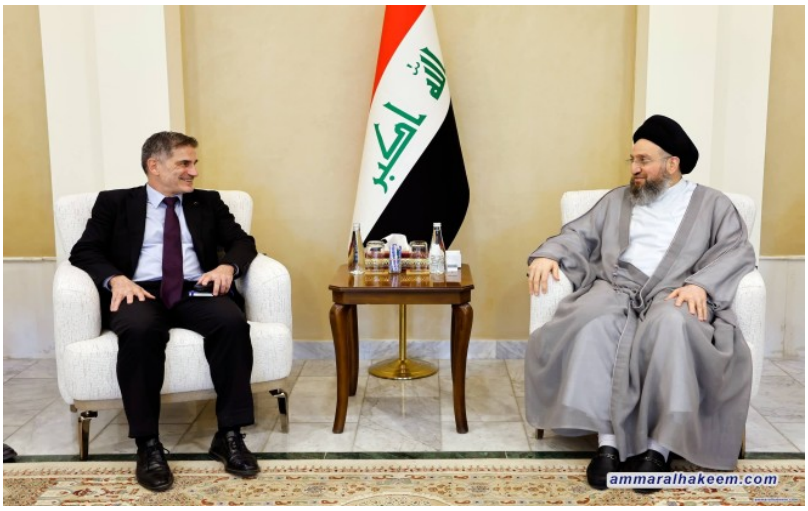
Sayyid Al-Hakeem Calls for De-escalation, Resorting to Dialogue to Spare Region Scourges of War



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received the Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Iraq, His Excellency Mr. Clemens Semtner, and the two sides discussed the files common to Iraq and the European Union. H.E. stressed the importance of the European Union to Iraq, calling for strengthening bilateral relations between Iraq and the European Union countries in a way that serves the interests of both sides, and renewed support for government efforts aimed at consolidating relations with the European Union and political, economic, developmental, scientific, and security cooperation.

H.E. explained the nature of the challenges facing Iraq, foremost the economic challenge arising from regional events and their negative repercussions on Iraq's ability to produce and export oil. H.E. stressed the need to benefit from this crisis in diversifying sources of income and expanding oil export outlets, calling for intensifying diplomatic efforts to reach peaceful solutions, halt escalation, sit at the dialogue table, and spare the region the scourges of war and its devastating effects at various levels.

H.E. affirmed that Iraq is moving with steady steps toward addressing the file of weapons outside the framework of the state through dialogue and understanding, explaining that the treatment includes all those to whom this description applies, while preserving the rights of everyone who contributed to defeating terrorism and liberating the land.