The UAE and Israel: A Warm Peace

The historic normalization agreement between the United Arab Emirates and Israel is transforming the Middle East. As two of the region's most dynamic economies and vibrant societies, closer UAE-Israel ties are accelerating growth and innovation, expanding opportunities for young people, and building bonds of trust. With strong bipartisan US support, diplomatic normalization is fostering increased trade, investment, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people ties.

UAE Foreign Affairs Minister HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed attended the Negev Summit in Israel with his counterparts from the US, Israel, Egypt, Morocco, and Bahrain on April 4, 2022.

The governments of UAE, Jordan, and Israel signed a landmark declaration of intent to build renewable electricity and water desalination capacity in November 2021.

Key Highlights

- UAE-Israel trade is expected to reach $6.5 billion annually.
- The UAE and Israel finalized a free trade agreement expanding economic relations in April 2022.
- The UAE's Masdar and Israel's EDF Renewables are exploring renewable energy opportunities.
- Emirati and Israeli universities are working together on the development and ethical use of A.I.
- Over 300,000 Israelis have visited the UAE with numerous direct flights connecting the two countries.
- In September 2021, a joint Israel and UAE mission rescued dozens of Afghan women and human rights activists from Kabul in the aftermath of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

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Key Dates and Milestones

2019
The UAE announced the establishment of the Abrahamic Family House in Abu Dhabi where a mosque, church, and synagogue would be co-located in the same complex.

June 12, 2020
Writing in an Israeli newspaper in Hebrew, UAE Ambassador to the US Yousef Al Otaiba outlines the benefits to Israelis of pursuing peace and normalization with the UAE. A poll taken days after this article was published revealed nearly 80% of Israelis preferred normalization to annexation.

August 13, 2020
The US, UAE, and Israel announce a historic normalization agreement.

September 15, 2020
Abraham Accords are officially signed at the White House.

September–December, 2020
Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco join the UAE in this effort, entering into normalization agreements with Israel in September, October, and December.

February, 2021
Mohamed Al Khaja appointed as the first UAE ambassador to Israel.

November 15, 2021
Israeli Ambassador Amir Hayek takes up diplomatic post in the UAE.

December 13, 2021
Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett meets with HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed in Abu Dhabi.

March 28, 2022
Foreign Ministers of the UAE, US, Israel, Bahrain, Egypt, and Morocco partake in the Negev Summit in Israel.

US Support for the UAE-Israel Accord

The UAE-Israel accord has received broad bipartisan backing.

President Joe Biden

"The UAE's offer to publicly recognize the State of Israel is a welcome, brave, and badly-needed act of statesmanship."

Former President Donald Trump

"By uniting two of America's closest and most capable partners in the region... this deal is a significant step towards building a more peaceful, secure, and prosperous Middle East."

US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman, Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ)

"I congratulate the leaders and people of Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain for taking the courageous and historical step towards peace and cooperation."

US Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman, Senator Jim Risch (R-ID)

"This agreement has the potential to dramatically improve relationships across the Middle East, and I look forward to greater collaboration between two key U.S. partners as we address common challenges and shared threats across the region."

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For more statements and reactions to the UAE-Israel Accord, visit **https://www.uae-embassy.org/**