

Abraham Accords Timeline: Key Events & Milestones

2020

- June 12** Writing in Yedioth Ahronoth, UAE Ambassador to the US Yousef Al Otaiba [outlines](#) the benefits to Israelis of pursuing peace and normalization with the UAE.
- August 13** The UAE, Israel and US announce the historic normalization agreement. Direct telephone service between the two countries begins.
- August 16** Direct telephone service between the two countries begins.
- August 31** First direct commercial flight from Israel to the UAE (El Al) [carries](#) an American and Israeli delegation to Abu Dhabi.
- September 15** Abraham Accords are signed at the White House.
- September 17** First kosher-certified restaurant in the UAE opens.
- October 12** First cargo shipment from the UAE enters the Israeli port of Haifa.
- October 20** HE Obaid bin Humaid Al Tayer, Minister of State for Financial Affairs, HE Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy, and HE Omar Ghobash, Assistant Minister for Culture and Public Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, visit Israel.
- November 8** First direct commercial flight carrying Israeli tourists (flydubai) [arrives](#) in Dubai.
- September – December** Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco enter into normalization agreements with Israel in September, October and December.

2021

- March 1** HE Mohamed Al Khaja presents his credentials to Israel's former President Reuven Rivlin, becoming the first UAE Ambassador to Israel.

- April 6** First direct commercial flight from Abu Dhabi to Israel (Etihad) arrives in Tel Aviv.
- June 14** First Emirati student [arrives](#) to study at a university in Israel.
- June 29** HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan receives Israel's Foreign Minister and Alternative Prime Minister Yair Lapid in his first official visit to the UAE.

Israeli Embassy in Abu Dhabi formally [opens](#).
- June 30** Israeli Consulate General in Dubai formally [opens](#).
- July 13-16** HE Mariam Almheiri, Minister of State for Food and Water Security, visits Israel.
- July 13** UAE Embassy in Tel Aviv formally [opens](#).
- July 14** Amir Hayek is appointed as Israel's Ambassador to the UAE.
- October 1** Expo 2020 Dubai [opens](#) with 192 country pavilions, including Israel.
- October 14-18** HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan [visits](#) Washington, DC and meets with US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid. They announce two trilateral working groups on religious coexistence and water and energy issues.
- December 13** Prime Minister Naftali Bennet becomes first Israeli leader to officially [visit](#) the UAE.

2022

- January 30** Israeli President Isaac Herzog [makes](#) his first visit to the UAE and meets with HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
- March 27-28** HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan [attends](#) the Negev Summit in Israel with his counterparts from the US, Israel, Egypt, Morocco and Bahrain, reaffirming the importance of working together to enhance collaboration.
- May 31** The UAE and Israel [agreed upon](#) a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (Cepa), seeking to expand bilateral trade to \$10 billion by 2027.

- June 9** HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan [receives](#) Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett during his second visit to the UAE.
- June 28** First meeting of the Negev Forum Steering Committee [convenes](#) in Bahrain.
- July 14** The UAE, Israel and US launch the inaugural [I2U2 Summit](#), convening leaders from the three countries and India to collaborate on economic and trade matters.
- July 27** Due to high demand, Emirates [announces](#) plans for a second daily flight to Tel Aviv starting in October 2022.
- August 18** A record-setting \$1.4 billion in bilateral trade is announced for the first half of 2022.
- September 7** An estimated 450,000 Israeli tourists visited the UAE during the past two years.
- September 14** Marking the second anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords, HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan becomes the first UAE foreign minister to [visit](#) Israel.
- December 5** HH President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan [meets](#) with Israeli President Isaac Herzog.
- December 31** 35 business agreements were [signed](#) in 2022 between the UAE and Israel in areas as diverse as cooperation in the fields of health and the environment to collaboration in agriculture, security, and water.
- December 31** The volume of trade with Arab countries that normalized relations with Israel under the Abraham Accords broke the [\\$2.8 billion](#) barrier in 2022.

2023

- January 13** The UAE [becomes](#) the first Arab nation to teach the Holocaust in schools.
- February 22** Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Jose W. Fernandez [participated](#) in the I2U2 initiative's inaugural business forum, hosted in Abu Dhabi by UAE Minister of State HE Ahmed bin Ali Al Sayegh.

- March 26** The UAE and Israel [signed](#) a free trade pact into effect, reducing or removing tariffs on about 96% of goods traded between the nations.
- April 1** Israel is [currently](#) Dubai's fastest growing tourism source market.
- May 23** HH President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan [sent](#) a letter to President Isaac Herzog to officially invite Israel to attend the COP28 climate conference.