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Global politics

Timeline: Israel and Palestine

Date	Event
1916	The secret Sykes–Picot Agreement divided up the collapsing Ottoman Empire between France and Britain
1917	The Balfour Declaration announced British support for a 'national home for the Jewish people' in the area known as Palestine
1918	Britain took control of Palestine
1922	The League of Nations endorsed the British mandate over Palestine
1920s–40s	Increasing numbers of Jewish people arrived in Palestine, many of them escaping Nazi persecution in Europe
1936–39	Palestinian revolt
1947	Palestine handed to the United Nations, who planned to divide it into two states, with Jerusalem governed by a separate international body (this did not take place)
1948	The British withdrew from Palestine. The Jewish state of Israel declared its independence. The first Arab–Israeli War followed. Jordan annexed the West Bank, including the Old City of Jerusalem. Egypt occupied Gaza. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians fled or were forced from their homes
1956	The Suez Crisis (or the second Arab–Israeli War): Israel, supported by France and Britain, invaded Egypt to recover control of the Suez Canal
1957	Israel withdrew from Egypt but retained control of the Gaza Strip and the Gulf of Aqaba
1967	The Six-Day War: Arab states persuaded President Nasser of Egypt to expel UN forces from the Sinai Peninsula. Israel defeated Arab armies to take control of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights and the Egyptian Sinai
1970s	The emergence of independent Palestinian political and paramilitary groups
1973	The Yom Kippur War: Arab forces attacked Israel but were driven back
1978	The Camp David Accords: Israel withdrew from the Sinai and a framework was created for Palestinian self-government in the West Bank and Gaza
1982	Israel invaded Lebanon with the aim of eliminating the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO)
1987–93	The First Intifada (Palestinian uprising)

1993	Oslo I Accord signed – an agreement between the Israeli government and the PLO. The PLO recognised the state of Israel and Israel recognised the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and agreed to limited self-government in the West Bank and Gaza
1995	Oslo II Accord signed, which expanded the peace agreement of 1993. Peace talks were held from the 1990s to 2010s, but there were also regular outbreaks of violence and war
2000–05	The Second Intifada
2005	Israel withdrew from Gaza
2006	Hamas won elections and went on to take control of Gaza from the Palestinian Authority in 2007
2014	Peace talks ended
2023	7 October attack on Israel by Hamas

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