



Executive Council  
of Australian Jewry Inc.

**MEDIA STATEMENT**  
**14 August 2020**

**ECAJ welcomes historic peace agreement between Israel and the  
UAE**

The Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the national representative body of the Australian Jewish community warmly welcomes the announcement that Israel will sign a diplomatic agreement with the United Arab Emirates thereby ending the official state of conflict between the countries and achieving the full normalisation of relations. The UAE will become the third Arab country after Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994) to achieve peace with Israel.

This announcement is a landmark moment not only in the history of the region but in the fulfilment of Israel's founding vision of living in "peace and good neighbourliness ... with neighbouring states and their peoples" as enshrined in Israel's Declaration of Independence. It also deals a major blow to the old strategy of anti-normalisation and permanent war with Israel which has only entrenched enmity and caused misery and bloodshed.

We hope other nations in the region now follow in recognising that Israel is a permanent reality and in pursuing peace and good relations with the national home of the Jewish people.

We warmly congratulate the governments of both nations and hope this announcement leads to the prompt establishment of bilateral relations in business, tourism, and cultural and academic exchanges to ensure that the state of peace and mutual understanding extends to the Israeli and Emirati peoples.

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