

Norway, Ireland, Spain to Recognise Palestinian State

The three European countries will formally enact recognition on May 28 despite Israel's warnings of the consequences.

By [Al-Jazeera](#)

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The leaders of Norway, Ireland and Spain have said their countries will formally recognise Palestine as a state next week for the sake of "[peace in the Middle East](#)", prompting Israel to immediately recall its envoys.



L to R: Prime Minister of Norway Jonas Gahr Støre (CC BY 2.0); Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sanchez (Ministry of the Presidency. Government of Spain); Prime Minister of Ireland Simon Harris (European

Norway's **Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store** said on Wednesday that a two-state solution was in Israel's best interest and the recognition of Palestinian statehood would come as of May 28.

"There cannot be peace in the Middle East if there is no recognition," he said in Oslo.

Ireland's **Prime Minister Simon Harris** made a similar announcement in Dublin, as did Spain's **Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez** in Madrid, to applause in parliament.

"In the midst of a war, with tens of thousands killed and injured [in Gaza], we must keep alive the only alternative that offers a political solution for Israelis and Palestinians alike: Two states, living side by side, in peace and security," Gahr Store said.

"Recognition of Palestine is a means of supporting the moderate forces which have been losing ground in this protracted and brutal conflict," he said.

Harris told a news conference:

"I'm confident that further countries will join us in taking this important step in the coming weeks."

Ireland's foreign minister **Micheal Martin** said on X that the recognition will take place on May 28.

Sanchez, while announcing that Spain's council of ministers would also recognise an independent Palestinian state on May 28, accused his Israeli counterpart **Benjamin Netanyahu** of putting the two-state solution in "danger" with his policy of "pain and destruction" in Gaza.

"We hope that our recognition and our reasons contribute to other Western countries to follow this path, because the more we are, the more strength we will have to impose a ceasefire," Sanchez said.

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