

Israel holding secret talks with some Arab states, says Netanyahu

Israel is in secret talks with several Arab states on establishing ties, in addition to its US-backed deal struck with the UAE, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday, AFP reported.

“There are many more unpublicized meetings with Arab and Muslim leaders to normalize relations with the state of Israel,” he said on the eve of Israel’s first commercial flight to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The historic flight follows the August 13 announcement of a US-brokered agreement to normalize relations between the two countries, making the UAE the first Gulf country and only the third Arab state to establish relations with Israel after Egypt and Jordan.

The Monday morning flight will carry a US-Israeli delegation led on the American side by White House advisor Jared Kushner, who stood next to Netanyahu during the Israeli premier’s remarks.

The agreement on normalization of relations between Israel and the UAE is scheduled to be signed in Washington D.C. in September.

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