

U.S. expects Israel to accept Gaza plan

The U.S. government has “every expectation” that Israel will accept a three-phase Gaza ceasefire proposal if Hamas takes the deal



Smoke billows after an Israeli strike on Jabalia in northern Gaza

Phase 1: Full ceasefire

- Six-week temporary pause in fighting
- Withdrawal of Israeli forces from populated areas of Gaza
- Release of some hostages and some remains of hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held in Israel
- Return of Palestinian civilians to their homes in Gaza
- Surge in humanitarian aid to Gaza

■ **May 31:** Office of Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** (pictured) says it has authorised text of plan promoted by U.S. President **Joe Biden**



Phase 2: All hostages released

- Permanent end to hostilities
- Israeli military to fully withdraw from Gaza in exchange for release of remaining living hostages, including male Israeli soldiers

Phase 3: Reconstruction

- Major plan to rebuild Gaza's cities, including homes, schools and hospitals destroyed by war
- Final remains of hostages are returned to their families
- **Jun 3:** Israeli media quotes Netanyahu as saying that first phase of plan could be undertaken without necessary agreement on what follows