
IRELAND, SPAIN, NORWAY TO RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD

- 22.05.2024

Politico (22 May 2024)

BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Ireland, Spain and Norway on Wednesday said they would officially recognize Palestine as a state from next week, in a diplomatic move that triggered fury in Israel.

In Dublin, Irish Prime Minister Simon Harris said Palestine deserved the same right to be recognized as a sovereign state that Ireland received after fighting a war of independence from Britain more than a century ago.

But he stressed that Ireland hoped to see resumed diplomacy between Israel and the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank — and did not want to throw a diplomatic lifeline to Hamas.

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