

Netanyahu rules out Palestinian state as being 'incompatible' with Israeli security

Jan. 19 (UPI) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he has rejected U.S. calls for a Palestinian state after the war in Gaza ends.

Netanyahu told a news conference in Jerusalem on Thursday that he had made clear to Washington that his focus was on defeating Hamas and that he opposes any peace plan involving a pathway to a sovereign Palestinian like the one favored by the Biden administration.

“In any arrangement in the foreseeable future, Israel must have security control over all the territory west of the Jordan River. This clashes with the idea of [Palestinian] sovereignty. What can you do?” Netanyahu said.

“I told this truth to our friends, the Americans, and I also blocked the attempt to impose a reality that would harm Israel’s security. The prime minister needs to be able to say ‘no,’ even to our best friends.”

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