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Bibi and Benny Do a Dirty Deal



After weeks of haggling since the inconclusive March 2nd elections, Benjamin Netanyahu (Likud) and Benny Gantz (Kahol Lavan) have finally concluded a deal to form a 'unity government'. Finalised on Monday April 20th, the arrangement will allow Netanyahu to serve as Israel's Prime Minister for the next 18 months before being replaced by Benny Gantz who will, in the meantime, serve as Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister.

With one exception, the 14 page agreement has little to say on government policy, concentrating instead on who will get what job, right down to who gets to be ambassador to Australia! 'After the establishment of the government, a team will be established to formulate the basic principles of the government.'

The 'exception' will see **legislation brought before the cabinet or Knesset from July 1st to annex large parts of the West bank, including the Jordan Valley and the 'settlements'.**

Netanyahu is keen to push forward with annexation while Trump is still in the White House. And when you're facing three charges of corruption and fraud, why not distract attention by committing an even bigger crime?

Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh condemned the formation of 'an Israeli annexation government', which he said meant 'ending the two-state solution and the dismantling of the rights of the people of Palestine as established under international law and resolutions'.