

ABRAHAM ACCORDS

R E P O R T

First Quarter 2026 | Vol. 04

Welcome

The first quarter of 2026 demonstrated the far-reaching impact of American leadership in advancing the Abraham Accords and the benefits of these historic agreements for key U.S. interests in the Middle East. Significant steps were taken toward the creation of a new U.S.-aligned regional architecture in such areas as defense, energy, AI supply chains, and scientific research. Important U.S. legislation was advanced and adopted to strengthen Abraham Accords cooperation in defense and health. President Donald Trump made clear the high priority he places on the continued expansion of the Abraham Accords, directly calling on Saudi Arabia to join.

The continued resilience of Abraham Accords ties despite regional tensions and conflicts was demonstrated by the fact that trade between Israel and all of its Abraham Accords and Arab peace partners grew in this quarter compared to the first quarter of 2025. Kazakhstan began to see the fruits of its November 2025 decision to join the Accords when Israel's foreign minister led a high-profile governmental and business delegation to Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, where the two sides signed multiple cooperation agreements.

Operation Epic Fury/Roaring Lion demonstrated the critical importance of a Middle East strategic alliance, the seeds of which were planted during the first Trump Administration, particularly through the transfer of Israel to U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM). During the conflict with Iran, defense cooperation and integration among the U.S., Israel, and CENTCOM's Arab partners reached unprecedented levels. The Iron Dome system, developed jointly by the United States and Israel, was deployed to help defend the United Arab Emirates (UAE) against attacks from Iran. This defense and military integration demonstrated that Abraham Accords ties contribute not only to mutual prosperity, but also to mutual security in the face of common enemies.

The Heritage Foundation will continue to support the deepening and expansion of the Abraham Accords in 2026. Such expansion will strengthen the United States and advance its national security interests both in the Middle East and around the world. We look forward to working with all of our partners to achieve this vital goal.

— Victoria Coates, PhD
Vice President, Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for National Security
The Heritage Foundation

THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS

2 0 2 5 A N N U A L R E P O R T

This annual report presents and analyzes the development of the Abraham Accords over the course of the year and highlights opportunities and challenges on the horizon. Despite the regional tensions and conflicts of 2025, ties between Abraham Accords countries remained resilient and in some cases even grew.

[Click to Read the Annual Report](#)

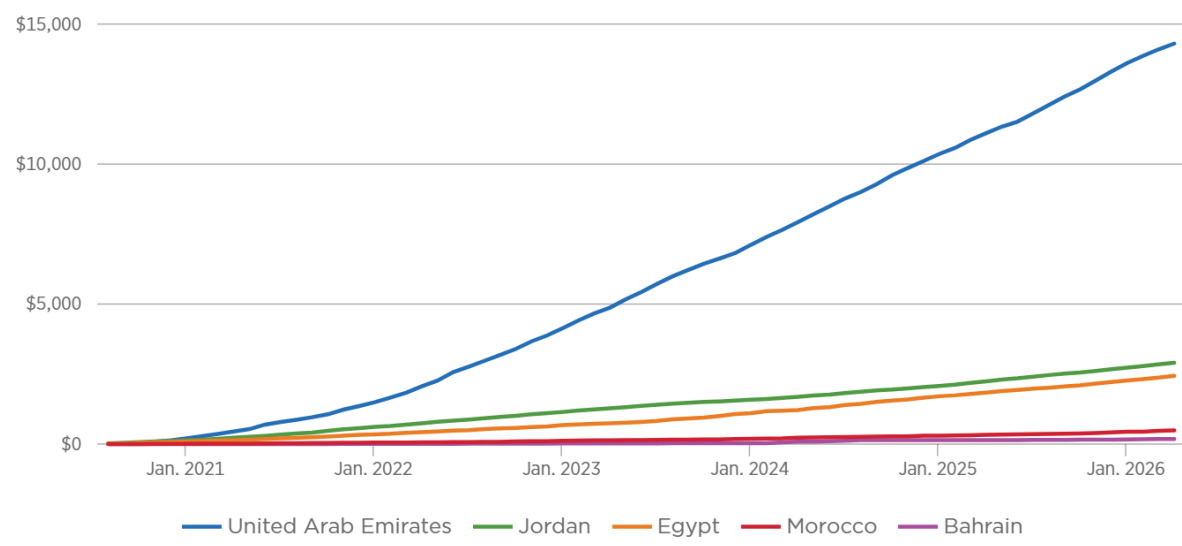
Trade Data, January 2026 – March 2026

Despite regional conflict and disruptions to air travel, Israel's trade with each of its Abraham Accords and Arab peace partners grew in the first quarter of 2026 compared to the same quarter in 2025. This reflects the resilience, logic, and mutual benefit of Abraham Accords economic ties. Both a gradual improvement in the overall business and people-to-people atmosphere following the Trump-brokered Gaza ceasefire in October 2025 and Israel's sustained economic dynamism despite the post-October 7 multi-front war appear to have contributed to this continued growth.

[Click for More Detail on the Latest Trade Data](#)

Cumulative Bilateral Trade with Israel

FIGURES ARE IN MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS

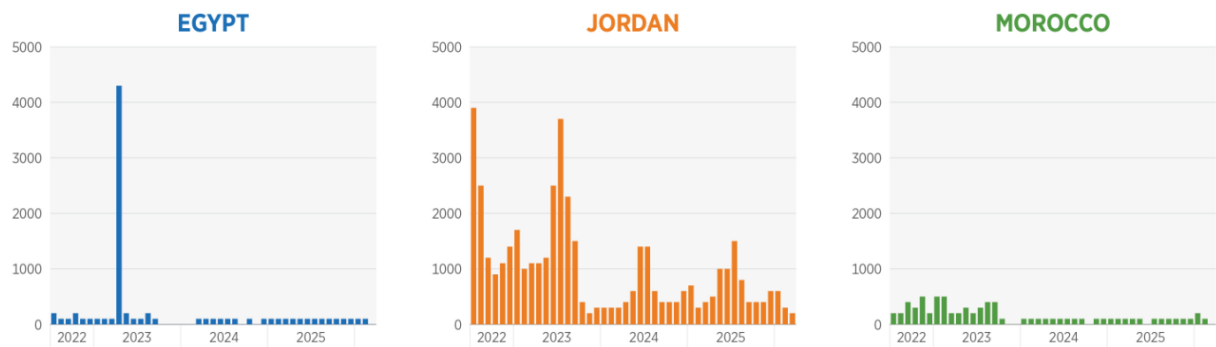


Travel and Tourism Data, January 2026 – March 2026

[According to the Israel Airport Authority](#), in the first quarter of 2026, the UAE was the number two destination for travelers departing from Israel, just behind the United States. 315,367 passengers traveled to the UAE, constituting 11.17% of all departures. Incoming visits to Israel from Abraham Accords countries remained low in this quarter as in previous quarters because of regional conflict, geopolitical tensions, flight cancellations, and travel and visa obstacles.

[Click for More Detail on the Latest Tourism Data](#)

Visitors to Israel by Neighboring Nation



Key Developments, January 2026 – March 2026

During the first quarter of 2026, the Abraham Accords continued to evolve into a framework for regional cooperation and integration. Across the opening months of the year, cooperation among the United States, Israel, and Abraham Accords partners advanced in fields ranging from defense planning and scientific research to medical supply chains, energy security, AI, and regional connectivity. These developments reflected the growing recognition that the Accords are not only a diplomatic achievement, but also a practical mechanism for addressing shared strategic, economic, and national resilience-related challenges.

Several of the quarter's most notable developments centered on the institutionalization of cooperation. Israel and Morocco convened their third Joint Military Committee and signed a 2026 military work plan; the U.S.-initiated Pax Silica framework expanded to include the UAE; the AASPIRE Network brought together scientific and policy leaders from the United States, Israel, the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, and Kazakhstan; and new U.S. legislation established a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Abraham Accords office to help secure medical supply chains among trusted partners.

The quarter also highlighted the expanding geographic reach of the Accords. Kazakhstan's accession began to translate into concrete benefits that include high-level Israeli diplomatic and business delegations focused on trade, investment, AI, agriculture, water, tourism, and regional diplomacy. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's emphasis on the International Microelectronics Centre (IMEC) and India-Israel-UAE-United States I2U2 Group during his state visit to Israel in February underscored the connection between the Abraham Accords and broader U.S.-aligned initiatives linking the Middle East with Asia and the West. The participation of Abraham Accords members and Israel's Muslim-majority peace partners in discussions surrounding Gaza stabilization further demonstrated the potential of these relationships to contribute to regional problem-solving.

Operation Epic Fury/Roaring Lion brought the security dimension of this regional architecture to the fore. As the conflict with Iran intensified, defense cooperation among Israel, the UAE, the United States, and other regional partners illustrated how the trust and channels created by the Accords can be mobilized during moments of regional crisis, thereby contributing to shared security. New congressional efforts to strengthen Abraham Accords defense cooperation and President Trump's direct call for Saudi Arabia to join the Accords all indicated that the Accords are increasingly critical for ensuring and advancing U.S. interests and partnerships in the Middle East.

[Click for More Detail on the Latest Key Developments](#)

Articles and Analyses

[Iran's Retaliatory Strikes Have U.S. Allies 'Lining Up' Behind Trump, Victoria Coates Says](#)

Fox News Live, February 28, 2026

[Breaking: Trump Says Khamenei Is Dead. What Happens Now in Iran?](#)

Virginia Allen
The Daily Signal, February 28, 2026

[Who Is Iran's Next Leader?](#)

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The Daily Signal, March 2, 2026

[Just In: Iran Strike Exposes U.S. Capacity Vulnerabilities, Experts Say](#)

Laura Heckmann
National Defense, March 3, 2026

[Operation Epic Fury Is Peace Through Strength in Action](#)

Asher Fredman
Washington Examiner, March 3, 2026

[Operation Epic Fury Shows What a True U.S.-Israel Alliance Looks Like](#)

Asher Fredman
The Jerusalem Post, March 5, 2026

[Now Is the Time for Iran's People to Take Back Their Country](#)

Asher Fredman
19FortyFive, March 6, 2026

[Does Iran Still Have a War Strategy?](#)

Virginia Allen
The Daily Signal, March 11, 2026

[Iran's Gamble in the War Could Bring Itself a New Enemy.](#)

Asher Fredman
Israel Hayom, March 14, 2026

[Saudi's Petroline Undercuts Iran's Energy Blackmail and Offers a Lesson for America](#)

Victoria Coates
The Washington Times, March 17, 2026

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