

# *Benjamin Netanyahu holds lead over rival Benny Gantz*

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Tel Aviv, March 3 (RHC)-- In Israel, with most votes counted, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has earned a significant lead over former army chief Benny Gantz in the country's third election in less than a year.

But Netanyahu's Likud party fell short of winning a parliamentary majority. Neither Netanyahu's Likud party nor Gantz's Blue and White party have been able to win an outright majority or form governing coalitions in the two prior elections.

Full election results won't be published until next Monday, according to Israeli media. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's trial for corruption will begin two weeks after the election.

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