

IPPNW Statement on the Violence in Gaza and the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

Stop the bloodshed!

We, physicians who have the mission to protect life and promote health, cannot accept the present suffering and bloodshed taking place in Gaza. We urge all parties to immediately take all the necessary steps to achieve an immediate, complete, and stable ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and the South of Israel, and to provide sufficient medical care for all the victims who suffer from severe injuries.

We also call upon you to facilitate the renewal of negotiations for a comprehensive and lasting peace treaty between Israel and the Palestinians, based on the mutual right of both peoples to freedom and security.

IPPNW believes that peace in Palestine and Israel is not possible unless there is an end to illegal occupation of land and the use of force; recognition of legitimate boundaries; and a genuine commitment to non-violent conflict resolution. As physicians from all over the world we cannot in any way accept such indiscriminate and disproportionate use of violence against civilians as we are now witnessing. We therefore urge all parties to support the United Nations in their urgent responsibility to intervene and stop this humanitarian catastrophe, which could also ignite a regional war.

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985, is a non-partisan, global federation of national affiliates in more than 60 countries, including Israel and Palestine, dedicated to research, education, and advocacy relevant to the prevention of all wars. To this end, IPPNW seeks to promote non-violent conflict resolution and to minimise the effects of war. IPPNW has long advocated a peaceful and just resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and has developed a Medical Roadmap for peace in the Middle East. For more information, please see <http://www.ippnw.org/Events/Past/Regional/Ant2002.html>.

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