

MANIFESTO BY HEALTH ORGANISATIONS IN DEFENCE OF LIFE AND THE RIGHT TO HEALTH FOR THE PEOPLE OF GAZA, THE WEST BANK AND LEBANON

Following the ceasefire agreed on 10 October, which was intended to bring an end to two years of conflict that has devastated the Gaza Strip, reports of the genocide have almost completely disappeared from the media; yet the reality is that attacks and deaths continue in both Gaza and the West Bank, and have also spread to Lebanon.

In Gaza, more than 72,263 Palestinians have been killed – the majority civilians, including more than 20,000 children – and more than 171,948 have been injured, many with amputations and lifelong injuries, of whom nearly 44,500 are children, according to UNICEF. In the West Bank, settlers have carried out 1,600 attacks and killed more than 220 Palestinians. Meanwhile, in Lebanon, since the start of the Israeli army's attacks, more than 1.3 million people have been forcibly displaced, 1,000 Lebanese have died and 2,584 have been injured. The people of Gaza, the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Lebanon need the same international support and solidarity as those affected by earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, famines, epidemics, etc.

GAZA

Despite the ceasefire, the genocide continues:

Israel has killed more than 673 Palestinians, including many children, since the ceasefire came into effect. According to UNICEF, since the start of the ceasefire, two children die every day in Gaza.

1.- Humanitarian aid is barely getting through

After months of blockade, aid is once again entering the Strip, but not in the quantities needed to meet the needs of a population that remains, for the most part, displaced and in a land that has been left without infrastructure. Only one border crossing is open for the entry of goods, and barely a third of the 600 lorries per day that are needed are getting through. The blockade on the entry of equipment and materials to repair infrastructure, remove unexploded ordnance, contaminated rubble and sewage also continues, whilst the destruction of infrastructure and entire neighbourhoods persists.

2.- Acute malnutrition remains at critical levels

77% of Gaza's population continues to suffer from acute food insecurity. 100,000 people were still living in catastrophic conditions as a result of the forced displacement of 730,000 people and the destruction of livelihoods, given that 96% of farmland has been destroyed or is inaccessible. 320,000 children under five and

around 37,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women suffer from malnutrition requiring treatment.

3. The health situation remains dire

Only a small proportion of hospitals and health centres are partially operational, and the United Nations reports that the delivery of vital supplies, medical equipment and even laboratory reagents is being obstructed. WHO reports a shortage of medicines and essential medical supplies for the treatment of heart disease, kidney transplants and haemodialysis, orthopaedic surgery, intensive care, ophthalmic surgery, primary healthcare, chemotherapy and blood disorders, as well as mental health and maternal and child health services. More than 18,500 patients (including 3,800 children) are awaiting medical evacuation. 1,092 patients have died whilst awaiting medical evacuation following the ceasefire, and this figure is likely to be an underestimate.

4.- This situation particularly affects the health of women and newborns

[UNICEF](#) reports that pregnant women are going hungry and giving birth to underweight or premature babies, many of whom are dying from acute malnutrition. At least 165 children have died 'painfully and preventably' from malnutrition. Babies with low birth weight are around 20 times more likely to die than babies of normal weight; the proportion of low-birth-weight babies rose from 5% to 10% of births (15 a day). Every week, around 15 women give birth outside a health facility, often without a trained midwife, pain relief or access to basic medical supplies. The [UN Population Fund](#) estimated that 55,000 pregnant women were caught in a spiral of displacement, bombardment and acute malnutrition, without access to the medical care they need.

WEST BANK

The situation in the West Bank is worsening day by day, due to settler violence, military actions by the Israeli army against the population, and the closure of an increasing number of roads that prevent the Palestinian population from accessing, for example, health centres.

Settler violence has intensified in scale and severity. In 2026 alone, there have been more than 580 settler attacks in 190 communities; 26 Palestinians have been killed and more than 360 injured by Israeli settlers during these attacks.

Added to this is the rise in forced evictions and the accelerated establishment of illegal Israeli settlements through the E1 project in the area situated between three of the most important Palestinian urban centres: East Jerusalem, Ramallah and Bethlehem.

Finally, Israeli military operations in the northern West Bank have triggered the largest displacement crisis in the West Bank since 1967. Since January 2025, more than 33,360 Palestinian refugees have been displaced from the refugee camps in Tulkarm, Nur Shams and Jenin.

LEBANON

The Israeli army is applying the same pattern of attacks in Lebanon as it did in Gaza: attacks on the civilian population and infrastructure, and on emergency and humanitarian service personnel, which has contributed to mass forced displacement, with over one million people displaced.

Attacks on the civilian population

Over the past month, Israel has attacked densely populated areas of the capital and major cities. As a result, in just one month, Israel killed 1,791 people and injured 5,804 in Lebanon. More than 100 children have been killed and over 350 injured. Older people and people with disabilities are particularly vulnerable due to their difficulties in seeking shelter.

Attacks on humanitarian and healthcare workers

The healthcare system has once again been targeted by the Israeli military; 82 attacks have been recorded against emergency medical services, and 6 hospitals and 49 health centres have ceased to function. In March alone, Israel killed 57 healthcare workers and injured 185.

Forced displacement of 1.3 million people

Israeli attacks have already forcibly displaced more than 1.3 million people, 20% of the population. The forced displacement orders issued by Israel cover 14.5% of the territory. As the UN Human Rights Office has stated, these measures are prohibited under international humanitarian law, particularly when they leave the civilian population with no viable alternatives, which has created a serious humanitarian crisis.

Limited access to humanitarian aid

Continuous bombardment and obstacles to the entry of aid convoys are preventing the delivery of aid, putting entire communities at risk of being cut off from the vital assistance they need.

We, the undersigned professional organisations, consider it essential

With regard to Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem,

1. The effective implementation of a ceasefire, supervised by the United Nations and with the participation of a peacekeeping force in Gaza.
2. The creation of a special fund for the immediate reconstruction of destroyed health infrastructure with EU support: housing, water, sewage, roads, schools, hospitals and health centres.
3. To allow the transfer to healthcare centres outside Gaza of patients requiring urgent treatment to prevent death and permanent disability, particularly among children.
4. Strengthen the Palestinian health service, with the support of Spanish and European health personnel, to tackle the health emergency, prevent a rise in avoidable mortality and assess the health situation and short- and medium-term resource needs to safeguard the health of the population, particularly pregnant women and children.
5. Guarantee unimpeded humanitarian access for humanitarian organisations and the opening of all Gaza border crossings to allow the unrestricted passage of humanitarian aid.

With regard to Lebanon

1. A real and unconditional ceasefire and an end to the war to ensure that urgent humanitarian aid can reach those in need and allow families to return safely to their communities.
2. Guarantee unimpeded humanitarian access and the protection of civilian infrastructure in Lebanon, so that humanitarian actors and national response teams can safely access the affected areas.

We, the undersigned organisations, believe that the necessary measures must be adopted as a matter of urgency to comply with the points set out above, in defence of the right to health, the protection of the civilian population and respect for human dignity, and we urge the Spanish Government and the European Commission to act in support of these measures. Our organisations express their willingness to collaborate in these efforts.

Lead organisations



Signed by

