



October 18, 2023

### IUPsyS Statement on the Israel-Palestine Conflict

On behalf of the International Union of Psychological Science, we extend our heartfelt solidarity and support to the innocent civilians enduring the hardships of conflict in Israel and Palestine within the context of increasing geopolitical tensions. We understand their immense challenges as they seek security and primary living conditions for their loved ones amid political conflict and terrorism. Our global community is very concerned with the sustained trauma experienced by innocent victims in these communities and the region.

Terrorism and oppression impose profound and lasting trauma on individuals and communities caught in the crossfire. As psychologists, we adhere to humanitarian principles, the do-no-harm principle, and the promotion of well-being for all individuals, regardless of their background or circumstances. As the global voice of psychology, we are committed to promoting mental health, resilience, and sustained well-being among the most vulnerable.

Psychological science contributes to reducing the emotional damage sustained by innocent civilians. It offers an increasing understanding of the complex problems associated with violence. It also promotes the development of evidence-based strategies to help individuals and communities cope with trauma's short- and long-term effects.

Basic psychological knowledge offers relevant insights to promote peace, inclusion, and equality in populations enduring conflict. In these trying moments, we encourage our scientific and professional communities, particularly our national, regional, and affiliate members, to seize this opportunity to promote a language and ideals of mutual understanding, respect for others, and peace. We can contribute to preventing conflict escalation and spreading to other communities worldwide.

IUPsyS wants to express its sincere gratitude to the psychologists and other mental health workers who, under the direst circumstances, continue to bring solace and professional support to the many victims of this sad moment for humanity. Your compassion is inspiring to current and future generations of psychologists.

Please know that the International Union of Psychological Science stands with the resilient civilian populations facing the current situation, and we remain committed to supporting their well-being and the pursuit of peace.

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