



22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

**Statement from the Middle East Pediatric Orthopaedic Society on the continued targeting of children and the healthcare system in Gaza**

We condemn in the strongest possible terms the killing and maiming of civilians in Gaza by the Israeli regime. The scale and nature of these attacks represent not only a humanitarian catastrophe but a profound violation of international law and basic human morality.

Of particular outrage is the deliberate and systematic targeting of healthcare professionals who risk their lives to save others. Hospitals have been bombed, ambulances attacked, and medical workers killed while performing their duties. This is totally unacceptable and goes against widely held global standards of ethics. We stand in solidarity with all our colleagues in Gaza who continue to serve those in need in unimaginable circumstances

Even more harrowing is the horrifying toll on children. Thousands have been killed, maimed, or left orphaned. An entire generation is being brutalised and many children now live as amputees, bearing physical and emotional scars that will last a lifetime. The mission of our society and the daily work of our membership focuses on improving the musculoskeletal function and potential of every child. We are therefore appalled to see the many thousands of children who have now been left with life changing injuries.

We believe this is the predictable consequence of a sustained and disproportionate military aggression against a densely populated civilian area. We will not remain silent while such atrocities are carried out with impunity.

We demand an immediate and unconditional ceasefire, the protection of civilians, healthcare workers and children, and immediate access to healthcare for all those who require it.