



JOINT STATEMENT

by European Paediatric Societies - Protecting Children amid Middle East Violence

“Children must be safeguarded as a priority, shielding them from all forms of violence and exploitation due to their vulnerability.”

Brussels, 17 October 2023 - The two major European paediatric societies, European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP), Paediatric section of UEMS (UEMS-PS) and the European Paediatric Association, Union of National European Paediatric Societies and Associations (EPA-UNEPSA), jointly issue this statement in the face of the shocking and unexpected eruption of violence in the Middle East.

These distressing events once again underscore the profound impact children endure when violence replaces reason. Both societies vehemently denounce and condemn all acts of violence against civilians, especially those targeting children. Regardless of race, nationality, or creed, it is the responsibility of civil society to ensure that children are afforded the best it has to offer. Primarily safety and the essential resources for their normal, both material and spiritual development.

Amid the ongoing eruption of violence that has plunged innocent populations into a state of war, the two European societies unequivocally stand for and with children, advocating for their physical and mental well-being. Children must be safeguarded as a priority, receiving immediate assistance during times of distress and shielding them from all forms of violence and exploitation due to their vulnerability.

Every child, every age, everywhere.

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