

Nordic Medical Associations Joint Statement on Gaza (August 2025)

We, the medical association of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, express our deep concern over the ongoing and increasing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

As medical professionals, we are gravely concerned by the large number of civilian casualties and the repeated attacks on healthcare facilities, and healthcare workers. The destruction of Gaza's health system, combined with the ongoing blockade of humanitarian aid – including essential medical supplies – has left countless people without access to basic and life-saving care. Hospitals have been rendered inoperable, medical staff are working under impossible conditions, and children and other vulnerable groups are being denied urgent treatment. The collapse of the health system in Gaza constitutes a medical emergency that demands immediate and coordinated international response.

We call on the Nordic governments to take concrete action to alleviate this crisis, including:

- Urgently press for measures to ensure that all patients in Gaza receive necessary medical care — by securing treatment locally and facilitating timely medical evacuation abroad when required.
- Supporting the delivery of essential medical supplies and humanitarian assistance through sustained and protected humanitarian corridors.
- Promoting compliance with international humanitarian law and the protection of healthcare personnel, facilities, and transport.
- Exert diplomatic measures to bring about a permanent ceasefire.

We also reaffirm the principle of medical neutrality and urge all parties to respect the rights of patients and health workers, regardless of political or military context.

The Nordic medical associations stand ready to support these efforts and to cooperate with relevant national and international actors to ensure access to life-saving care.

In times of war, the role of the medical profession must remain clear: to preserve life and dignity – and to speak out when these are under threat.

Signed,

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Sofia Rydgren Stale, President, Swedish Medical Association

Camilla Noelle Rathcke, President, Danish Medical Association

Niina Koivuviita, President, Finnish Medical Association

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