

**STATEMENT of the Ethics Committee, 1st and 2nd Instance, of the Chamber of Nursing and Midwifery of Slovenia – Association of Professional Societies of Nurses, Midwives and Health Technicians of Slovenia, regarding the situation in Gaza and other crisis regions, and the ethical responsibility of nurses and midwives**

The Ethics Committee, 1st and 2nd Instance, expresses deep concern and protest against the mass suffering of the civilian population in Gaza and in other crisis regions around the world.

As nurses and midwives, we are committed to the core ethical principles of our professions, which are defined by our professional codes, including:

- The Code of Ethics in Nursing in Slovenia and the Code of Ethics for Midwives in Slovenia, which emphasize the duty to defend the rights of individuals, families, and communities, to advocate for peace, and to act against injustice and inequality in society;
- The Code of Ethics (as well as the revised definition of nursing) of the International Council of Nurses (ICN), which highlights that modern nursing essentially includes the promotion of human rights, health, and social justice;
- The Code of Ethics of the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), which emphasizes the dignity and respect for the human rights of women and their communities in all situations.

On this basis, and as humanists, we strongly condemn all acts of violence against civilian populations in all crisis regions around the world. We condemn the deliberate attacks on children, women, and other vulnerable groups in Gaza, which we consider to constitute genocide. We also condemn attacks on civilian populations elsewhere, as well as on healthcare facilities, humanitarian workers, and essential civil infrastructure. It is unacceptable that some politicians and leaders, both at home and around the world, place capital, geopolitical interests, and personal gain above the lives and dignity of people, and fail to stand decisively for fundamental human values, justice, and the protection of the innocent. At the same time, we call for diplomacy and dialogue to achieve peace.

As nurses and midwives, we have an ethical duty not to remain silent.

Therefore:

- We call on all nurses and midwives in Slovenia to clearly condemn violence against civilian populations, regardless of their ethnic, religious, or other background.
- We call on nurses and midwives around the world to use their voice and influence, in the spirit of their profession and ethics, to oppose the killing and all forms of violence against children, women, and other innocent people, regardless of their ethnic, religious, or other background.
- We urge all relevant institutions, including governments, international organizations, and professional associations, to act for the immediate cessation of violence, access to humanitarian aid, and the respect for human dignity in all crisis regions.

History will judge us by how we did or did not act in times of immense human suffering. Now is the moment when, in the face of the horrors unfolding before our eyes, the voice of nurses and midwives must be heard clearly, decisively, and without hesitation – in the name of humanity.

**Ethics committee, 1st Instance**  
**committee, 2nd Instance**

**Ethics**