

**13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Joint Press Release – “Solidarity with medical doctors in Gaza Strip”**

The Maltese Association of Radiologists and Nuclear Medicine Physicians, the Maltese Association of Psychiatry, the Malta Pediatric Association, the Malta Association of Ophthalmologists, the Malta College of Family Doctors, the Association of Anaesthesiologists of Malta, the Geriatric Medicine Society of Malta, the Association of Emergency Physicians of Malta, the Malta College of Pathologists, the Malta College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the Malta Association of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, the Maltese Association of Dermatology & Venereology, the Malta Association of Public Health Medicine, and the Association of Surgeons of Malta wish to express solidarity with medical doctors in the Gaza strip, who are presently working under extreme duress in the middle of a war zone; under siege; without electricity, water, and food supplies; without adequate supply of medicines and anaesthetics; and surrounded by incessant bombing.

Medecins Sans Frontieres have stated that : “The situation in Gaza is catastrophic; the hospitals are overwhelmed. The number of wounded is extremely high – there is a constant influx into all the hospitals in the Gaza Strip. The medical teams are exhausted, working around the clock to treat the wounded”. <https://www.msf.org/hospitals-are-overwhelmed-catastrophic-situation-gaza>

We encourage the Maltese government, as an EU member state, and Maltese representatives on UN Security Council to advocate more strongly for cessation of hostility and for full protection of medical facilities in accordance with international law on humanitarian protection.”