

# ISPN Statement on the Humanitarian Crisis Affecting Children in Conflict Zones

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**We, the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (ISPN)**, are a global community of neurosurgeons committed to advancing the care of children with neurosurgical conditions and supporting those who provide this care in every region of the world.

As both a professional and moral community, we are deeply distressed by the devastating humanitarian consequences of armed conflict. Across the world, we are witnessing an immense toll on civilians, particularly **children, who are always the most vulnerable in times of war**. The destruction of healthcare infrastructure, obstruction of access to medical care, and the severe psychological and physical trauma endured by children are deeply alarming.

**ISPN does not take political positions.** However, we feel compelled to speak when the well-being and lives of children are at stake. As we have done before, we reaffirm our values of compassion, equity, and peace, and express our profound concern for all children affected by war and violence, **regardless of geography, nationality, ethnicity, or creed**.

We call for **immediate and unrestricted humanitarian access** to deliver medical aid and care to children in conflict zones and urge that all necessary measures be taken to protect civilian lives, especially those of children, in accordance with international humanitarian law.

We also recognize the pain, fear, and loss experienced by families and medical professionals **on all sides of these tragedies**. In these times of division, ISPN remains a space for respectful dialogue, shared responsibility, and unwavering solidarity with our colleagues who work under extraordinarily difficult conditions to care for children in war-affected areas.

We invite our members and affiliated societies to join us in upholding the principle that **every child, everywhere**, deserves to grow up in peace, with access to healthcare, and free from violence.