

H.E. Ali Bagheri
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Open letter

Bussum, The Netherlands, 7 August 2024

Your Excellency,

Thank you for your message, with the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the letter to the UN on the occasion of the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh in Iran.

At Peace SOS we are very shocked by all the violence in Israel and in Gaza. We were shocked by the children killed in 2022 (see the *UN report Children in Armed Conflict 2023*), by what happened in Israel on October 7th, and the devastating war in Gaza. We are shocked by the article in *the Lancet* which claimed that it is not implausible to estimate that up to 186,000 or even more deaths could be attributable to the current conflict in Gaza. In addition, we were shocked by the testimonies of American health care workers in Gaza, as well as by the testimonies we continue to receive from a family in the Gaza strip.

We fear that the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh will obstruct the peace negotiations and lead to an escalation of violence between Israel and Iran. Therefore, we call upon all parties to refrain from violence – an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind - and to solve violent conflict via peace negotiations. To turn to the UN. May the war in Gaza halt soon and may humanitarian aid be provided and the hostages be released.

Finally, we would like to mention that we call upon all parties to cherish life. We need to take care of each other. To achieve: A World in Which All Children Can Play.

May-May Meijer

Chair Peace SOS

A background image of a world map with several red hearts overlaid on it, symbolizing global peace and unity.

A better and fairer world for all of us

This letter is supported by:

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