

JRS Europe joins SJM and Jesuitas Social in joint statement on Gaza

From the social sector of the Society of Jesus, we express our sorrow at the ongoing violence in so many parts of the world, and especially in Gaza, where the civilian population suffers the consequences of a prolonged occupation, indiscriminate attacks, and unbearable living conditions. This is not merely a conflict, but a structural situation that denies rights and perpetuates suffering.

As part of the Church, we feel called by the words of Pope Leo XIV, who has insisted that true peace cannot be built on fear, humiliation, or the denial of human dignity. We make his calls for an end to violence and the pursuit of justice and reparation our own.

Likewise, as a network of social organisations of the Society of Jesus, we cannot remain indifferent in the face of the flagrant violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. We reaffirm our commitment to the defense of human dignity and to the construction of a world where justice and peace prevail. We join the voices calling for an end to this tragedy, and we offer our prayers and support to all those affected.

Our Ignatian identity commits us to view reality from the perspective of those who suffer most. As stated in our foundational documents, faith that does justice requires us to denounce the causes of suffering and to work actively to transform them. That is why today, we raise our voice in defence of the Palestinian people and of so many others who are victims of sustained violence that must not be normalised or silenced.

Peace cannot be imposed; it must be built. For that, respect for international law, an end to the occupation, and a genuine political will to guarantee the rights of all involved are essential.

We speak from a deep conviction: the Gospel calls upon us to stand alongside victims, never on the sidelines.