



The Palestine Red Crescent Society renews its calls to the international community to ensure the protection of its personnel and facilities and to provide a safe humanitarian space

11/2/2024 The Palestine Red Crescent Society is devastated with the Occupation's crime of killing 2 of our ambulance crews, Ahmad Al Madhoun and Youseif Zeino, whom had embarked on a mission to save the child Hind 12 days ago in Tal El Hawa area in Gaza City. The decomposing bodies of the crew were found in the remains of a shattered ambulance vehicle due to direct targeting through the Occupation's shelling just a few meters away from Hind's family car.

This crime follows the Occupation's crime of killing paramedic Mohammad Al Omari after being directly targeted during a medical evacuation mission in Gaza city which was coordinated through the ICRC. This targeting has also led to the injury of 2 other paramedics, one in the chest and one in the eye. This brings the number of PRCS crews killed by the Occupation forces to 14 since the start of its aggression against the Strip, a heinous breach of international humanitarian law.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society is also appalled at the Israeli Occupation's arrest of nine of its staff and a number of its patients at Al Amal Hospital on February 9, 2024 when it stormed the hospital, tampered with its contents, looted it, and ruined medical equipment, in addition to the arrest of two volunteers on February 8, 2024. This incident took place as the displaced were evacuated from Al-Amal Hospital, which continues to be besieged for the twenty-first day in a row, during a humanitarian corridor coordinated through the International Committee of the Red Cross. This brings the total number of arrested PRCS staff and volunteers to 14 since the start of the aggression against the Strip.

According to international humanitarian law and the Geneva Conventions, the direct targeting and deliberate killing of PRCS crews and volunteers is considered a war crime, and the contracting parties that signed the Geneva Conventions and are obligated to enforce respect for international humanitarian law must take the necessary measures to suppress, rebuke and punish the perpetrators.

The PRCS also believes that the Occupation's detention of its crews, which may amount to the crime of enforced disappearance in some cases, is illegal and they must be released immediately, as it is prohibited to forcibly arrest or disappear healthcare workers as punishment for humanitarian work.

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society calls for the necessity of enforcing respect for the Red Crescent emblem, which is protected in accordance with the provisions of international law, and respecting and protecting the legal personality of the Society and facilitating its humanitarian mission. This has been ignored by the Israeli Occupation, which led to the creation of unbearable operational conditions for the Palestinian Red Crescent teams to perform their humanitarian

duties. The PRCS urges the necessity to protect the displaced, considered Protected Persons under international law, who took refuge in its facilities due to its legal protections. The Palestine Red Crescent Society renews its calls to the international community to ensure the protection of its personnel and facilities.