



**German Medical Association**  
Federation of the German Chambers of Physicians  
German Medical Assembly  
PRESIDENT

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**Via email**

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**Letter in full support of the medical profession in the Islamic Republic of Iran**

Your excellency,

I am addressing you as president of the German Medical Association (GMA) to condemn in no uncertain terms the recent violations of the rights of medical professionals and demonstrators in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We have received reports that protestors in the Islamic Republic of Iran are being denied access to appropriate medical care. In addition, reports have emerged that physicians are being threatened for treating injured protestors. On behalf of the GMA, I urge you to respect medical neutrality and to take all necessary measures to put an immediate end to all acts of harassment and intimidation against medical professionals. It is a physician's professional and ethical duty to treat any patient, regardless of political or religious affiliation. These duties apply in times of conflict just as much as they do in peacetime, and violations of these principles must not be tolerated.

In its Declaration on the Protection and Integrity of Medical Personnel in Armed Conflicts and Other Situations of Violence, the World Medical Association cites the international agreements guaranteeing safe access to medical assistance and the protection of healthcare personnel, including the Geneva Conventions (1949), Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions (1977, 2005) and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials of the United Nations.

In keeping with these and other international human rights agreements, the safety and neutrality of medical facilities and personnel must always be respected. This is what our Iranian colleagues have demonstrated for, and the German medical profession stands



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beside them in solidarity. There is no justification for the deployment of security forces against them.

I urge you to take swift action to grant physicians in the Islamic Republic of Iran the freedom and safety that is their due to fulfil their professional commitment to the health and well-being of their patients. Every patient has the right to access medical care.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Klaus Reinhardt  
President