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Australians Rally for Gaza Ceasefire as Humanitarian Crisis Deepens

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– Categories: Human Rights



Thousands of Australians marched in Sydney, Melbourne, and other capital cities on August 3, 2025, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza amid a deepening humanitarian crisis. The protests were supported by the Doctors Reform Society (DRS), which condemned the ongoing lack of food, medical aid, and humanitarian access in the region.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that more than 52,400 Palestinians have been killed and 118,000 wounded since October 2023, with nearly 1.9 million displaced under increasingly dire conditions.

Dr. Tim Woodruff, Vice President of the DRS, emphasized the scale of the crisis, stating, “Australians are pleading for an end to the suffering in Gaza, where bombs, starvation, and lack of medical aid have created a catastrophe.” The DRS, in collaboration with Australian and New Zealand Doctors for Palestine, renewed calls for the Australian government to advocate for unrestricted humanitarian access and a permanent ceasefire.

A petition signed by over 40,000 health professionals, tabled in Parliament in November 2024, echoed these demands and urged stronger action to protect civilians and medical infrastructure in Gaza.

Activists also raised concerns about professional repercussions faced by medical personnel speaking out. The DRS stated that more than 50 doctors have been reported to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) over alleged antisemitism since voicing support for Palestinian civilians—an action they describe as a coordinated attempt to silence advocacy.

The demonstrations, which have occurred nationwide since October 2023, underscore continuing public pressure on the Australian government to act more decisively. Organisers have pledged to maintain the momentum until humanitarian aid reaches civilians freely and hostilities cease.