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## Australian Doctors Rally for Israeli Physicians Opposing Gaza Conflict

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– Categories: Human Rights



Australian doctors plan to march across Sydney Harbour Bridge on August 3, 2025, in solidarity with Israeli doctors from Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI), who have called for an end to Israel's military actions in Gaza and the release of Israeli hostages held by Hamas.

Organized by the Australian Doctors Reform Society (ADRS), the march reflects support for PHRI's stance on the Gaza conflict. PHRI recently urged Israel to cease military operations in Gaza and called on Hamas to release hostages taken during the October 7, 2023, attack. Dr. Robert Marr, Order of Australia Medal (OAM) recipient and spokesperson for ADRS, highlighted PHRI's concerns over the humanitarian impact of the conflict,

particularly the suffering of civilians and the disruption of access to food and medical services.

PHRI's statement condemned Israel's actions, citing severe humanitarian consequences. According to figures released by the Gaza Health Ministry, over 60,000 Palestinians have died since the conflict escalated, including an estimated 17,000 children. Israeli authorities have reported around 1,200 deaths resulting from the initial Hamas attack. The United Nations has also raised alerts about the risk of famine in Gaza. Dr. Marr emphasized the need for international attention and urged support for PHRI's call for a ceasefire and humanitarian action.

The Sydney Harbour Bridge was chosen for its symbolic significance, with ADRS expecting hundreds of medical professionals to participate. The event coincides with heightened tensions in Sydney, following NSW Police's initial opposition to a separate pro-Palestinian protest planned for the same day. The NSW Supreme Court later upheld the right to protest. ADRS clarified that their march is solely focused on supporting PHRI's humanitarian message and is not connected to broader political demonstrations. Dr. Marr urged government authorities to support the peaceful event, stating, "It's about standing with doctors who uphold medical ethics under pressure."

The Australian government, led by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, has faced public criticism for its response to the Gaza conflict. A recent YouGov poll indicated that 61% of Australians support stronger measures regarding Israel's military actions. However, the ADRS march remains centered on humanitarian and ethical concerns, without promoting any political position. The march is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. at Lang Park, and participants are encouraged to contact ADRS for more information.