



### **22/09/2025 Statement from Palestinian Medical Relief Society on the Targeting of Our Clinic (Al Samer Clinic) and the Forced Displacement of Civilians:**

We write today in grief and outrage. One of our clinics, dedicated to healthcare for our community and serving families in Gaza since its establishment in 2006, has been reduced to rubble in a deliberate Israeli airstrike. Families, patients, and our staff were forced to flee within minutes, carrying nothing but what they could hold in their hands.

This was one of the few original clinics left in Gaza. Until today it was still standing, serving our people despite unimaginable challenges — and now it is destroyed. Located on Omar al-Mukhtar Street, west of al-Samer Square, this clinic was a cornerstone of community health and one of the most vital facilities of its kind. It employed 45 staff members who worked tirelessly to meet the health needs of our people.

It was not just a building. It was a lifeline. Services included:

- General primary healthcare
- Women's health services
- Mental health and psychosocial support
- Community health awareness programs
- A safe space supported through an EU project
- Specialized doctors in cardiology, endocrinology, pulmonology, nephrology, nutrition, and ophthalmology
- Physiotherapy and outreach wound-dressing teams

- The largest laboratory in Gaza, supporting hospitals with lab tests

On average, 700 to 1,000 patients were treated daily at this clinic. It was one of the very few remaining healthcare centers that continued to serve despite relentless bombardment and shortages.

This latest destruction is part of a wider pattern. In the last three weeks alone, three of our clinics have been targeted:

- Al-Shatae Primary Health Care clinic — completely destroyed
- Tal al-Hawa clinic — partially damaged
- Omar al-Mukhtar clinic — now entirely destroyed

Today, in addition, one of our cars used for rehabilitation and wound care services was also destroyed. These deliberate attacks are systematically dismantling what little remains of Gaza's healthcare infrastructure.

The destruction of this clinic exposes not only Israel's ongoing assault on Palestinian life but also its total disregard for the international community and the humanitarian principles our international partners stand for. By bombing a donor-supported clinic that had served communities faithfully for years, Israel once again acted with impunity, knowing it will not be held accountable. The targeting of a healthcare center sustained by international partners is a direct violation of international law, and silence from governments and institutions will only embolden further crimes.

As one of our colleagues on the ground recounted:

***"It all happened so suddenly. We just heard a commotion in the street, and then someone came and told us they were planning to strike the building and the entire block. They gave us thirty minutes to evacuate. Everyone rushed out, and about half an hour later they hit the building. The whole tower came down, and even the entire block suffered massive destruction. It all happened before the news crews even arrived. There were people at work inside at the time, and they scattered as it happened. In the end, each of us just grabbed whatever we could carry and left. We couldn't take much, hardly anything at all."***

This was not just an attack on a building — it was an attack on healthcare, on the right to safety, and on the dignity of our people. It is part of a systematic campaign of forced displacement and the dismantling of what little remains of Gaza's health system.

We condemn, in the strongest terms, the targeting of civilians and healthcare facilities. These acts are war crimes. They violate every principle of international humanitarian law.

We call on the international community to move beyond empty words of concern:

- Impose sanctions and a comprehensive military embargo on Israel.
- Hold perpetrators accountable through international courts and legal mechanisms.
- Take immediate action to end Israel's ongoing assault on civilians, healthcare, and vital infrastructure.

Our patients deserve care, our staff deserve safety, and our people deserve to live free from fear of annihilation. Ending Israel's impunity is the only way to stop these crimes from continuing.