

# **A Call to Action**

## **from Civil Society Organizations in Lebanon**

We, a group of civil society organizations active in Lebanon, raise our voice amid these exceptional circumstances that our country is going through as a result of the Israeli aggression and the ongoing war on Lebanese territory, blatantly disregarding the four Geneva Conventions and their protocols, which protect civilians, peacekeepers, first responders and journalists during wartime, thus violating the core standards of international humanitarian law.

Amidst our profound humanitarian crisis and worsening living conditions, the war has already claimed approximately 2,986 martyrs and left nearly 13,403 wounded. Over than 1.4 million Lebanese, including more than 400,000 children, have also been displaced, while countless others have lost their homes, livelihoods and dignity. Their lives remain under constant threat amid the extensive destruction and devastation affecting various Lebanese regions.

Accordingly, and out of our belief that our national duty compels us to send a clear message to all concerned parties,

**We hereby address the following call:**

**First: To the Lebanese governing institutions:**

Emphasizing the importance of solidarity with the internally displaced people and the need to intensify efforts to support them and address their humanitarian needs while respecting their dignity, especially in light of threats to escalate the war resulting in further displacement, we call on the concerned parties in ministries and municipalities to coordinate and facilitate the delivery of aid through official channels, while observing the principles of inclusiveness and transparency.

We call on the state to assume its responsibilities towards citizens at this critical juncture with respect to living standards, economic conditions, and security, and to take the necessary immediate measures, including:

1. Calling on Parliament to elect a President of the Republic without delay.
2. Forming a rescue government that develops an urgent plan for a ceasefire and implements relevant international resolutions, particularly Resolution 1701, extending the authority of the Lebanese state across all its territory, enhancing the readiness of the Lebanese Armed Forces to maintain security at the borders and protect citizens, and striving to unite all Lebanese under the state's authority.
3. Urging the executive authority to coordinate and negotiate with all concerned parties to ensure state sovereignty, protect Lebanon, and prioritize the development of a national defense strategy to spare Lebanon from further wars and calamities, thereby preventing any future tampering with the Lebanese sovereignty.

**Second: To the international community**

We call on the international community and member states of the United Nations to urgently issue a ceasefire resolution and consolidate the truce to facilitate the delivery of aid, foster a political solution, implement international resolutions, prevent impunity and hold perpetrators

of war crimes accountable, while emphasizing the importance of adhering to international humanitarian law standards.

We remind the international community that Lebanon is a founding member of the United Nations and remains committed to international conventions and to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrined in the Lebanese Constitution.

We also urge all countries to provide support and assistance to Lebanon to overcome this crisis on all fronts, with a particular focus on the humanitarian and healthcare sectors.

### **Third: To the Lebanese in the diaspora**

We address Lebanese expatriates around the world, expressing our gratitude for their unwavering support, and we encourage them to continue assisting their fellow countrymen and women back home. We emphasize their pivotal role in engaging with and lobbying official authorities in all capitals around the world to advocate for a ceasefire that spares Lebanon further tragedies and to develop a plan for its reconstruction. We also urge them to work towards implementing binding UN resolutions related to Lebanon, to preserve the sovereignty of the Lebanese state, ensure the safety of its citizens, and protect its territorial integrity and internationally recognized borders.

### **End of the call.**

### **The civil society organizations supporting this initiative:**

Abnaa Saida Association	جمعية أبناء صيدا
Adyan Foundation	مؤسسة أديان
Arab Union for Specialized Women Association	جمعية الإتحاد العربي للمرأة المتخصصة
Afaq nonprofit organization	جمعية آفاق الخيرية
Beity Association	جمعية بيتي
Byblos Ecologia	
Democracy Reporting International	المنظمة الدولية للتقرير عن الديمقراطية في لبنان
Development for People and Nature Association	جمعية التنمية للإنسان والبيئة
Fiftyfifty	فيفتي فيفي
Green Square	
HIMAYA Daeem Aata (HDA) ASSOCIATION	جمعية حماية دعم وعطاء
Justice without Frontier	عدل بلا حدود
Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections	الجمعية اللبنانية من أجل ديمقراطية الانتخابات
Lebanese Family Planning Association for Sustainable Development	جمعية تنظيم الأسرة في لبنان للعمل على التنمية وتمكين الأسرة
Lebanese League for Women in Business	الرابطة اللبنانية لسيدات الأعمال
Liban Troc	
Louder Organization	
Madanyat for Equality	مدنيات للمساواة
Maharat Foundation	مؤسسة مهارات
Makhzoumi Foundation	مؤسسة مخزومي
Masar Association	جمعية مسار
Ondes	أوند
Point Talake	نقطة تلاقي
Rashaya Enviromental Committee Organization	اللقاء البيئي في قضاء راشيا
Ruwwad al Tanmeya	رواد التنمية

Sawa for Development Association	جمعية سوا للتنمية
Seeds	نواة للمبادرات القانونية
Shabebik	شبابيك
The Lebanese Center for Policy Studies	المركز اللبناني للدراسات
Women Leaders Association	جمعية السيدات القيادات
Women of Beirut	
Youth Against Corruption	شباب ضد الفساد



#### Members supporting this initiative in their personal capacity:

Dr. Fadia Kiwan	Fadwa Kallab
Eliane Chalhoub	Verena El-Amil
Roula El-Mourad	Maha El-Rassi Weber
Zeina El-Khoury Karam	Nariman El-Jamal Ghanem
Zeina Kallab	Nada Itani
Ghada Kassab	