



Gaza Mission

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Cadus

international
disaster response

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As the first German Emergency Medical Team (EMT), CADUS has been **providing emergency medical assistance in Gaza since February 2024.**

According to the WHO (March 4, 2025), the war following Hamas' attack on Israel, which left 1,200 dead and 239 hostages, has killed over 50,000 people and injured more than 113,000 in the Palestinian territories.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced within Gaza and separated from their families several times. **People are trapped in the tiny territory and exposed to the fighting.** Humanitarian aid is being massively hampered by Israel. The Gaza Strip has been extensively destroyed, and shortages are widespread. Approximately half of all health facilities are still partially operational. **Medical personnel and humanitarian relief workers**, the majority of them Palestinians, **are repeatedly killed.** They do tremendous work under the most adverse conditions.

Despite this, and precisely because of this, we have a team in Gaza, providing emergency medical assistance, training, and specialized patient transport. **We have already helped several thousand people in this way.**

We won't let ourselves be discouraged. In the face of crises, division, and injustice, our response remains: solidarity!
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Humanitarian situation in Gaza

INITIAL SITUATION

CADUS

According to UN data*:

- 68% of all buildings and 82% of all roads have been destroyed or damaged
- 91% of the population is at increased risk of hunger
- over 92% of young children and pregnant/breastfeeding women are not receiving adequate nutrition
- 92% of apartments and houses are damaged or destroyed
- over 1.8 million people are dependent on emergency shelters
- only 63% of hospitals are partially functional
- 89% of water and sanitation infrastructure is destroyed
- up to 13,000 patients are dependent on immediate treatment abroad



There is no safe place in Gaza. People are forced to constantly seek refuge in new places and hope that the fighting doesn't flare up again. Photo: Mattia Bidoli/CADUS

* <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-25-march-2025>, 27th March 2025



People in Gaza are forced to flee the constantly changing battle zones. Photo: Mattia Bidoli/CADUS



Factor war zone

Our mission in Gaza is very challenging, especially with regard to the team's safety: We are located in an **active war zone** where humanitarian aid workers, medical personnel, and civilian infrastructure have been affected by attacks. According to the UN, **399 humanitarian aid workers and 1,060 medical personnel have been killed so far.**

The work of humanitarian organizations is repeatedly hampered by the conflict parties. Our teams have also been subjected to arbitrary treatment, threats, and attacks by the Israeli army.

Logistics is also difficult to organize. Strict regulations also apply to humanitarian goods and medical equipment. Restricted border crossings make planning for transport and team changes even more difficult.

In such an emotionally and politically charged conflict, public relations is also a challenge. Adhering to humanitarian principles is therefore all the more important to us.



Rescue workers and humanitarian relief workers are also repeatedly falling victim to Israeli attacks on Gaza. Photo: CADUS



A few blankets, mattresses, and small pieces of furniture are all that some have left. Those who are lucky still have a working car. Many have lost their apartments and houses forever. Photo: Mattia Bidoli/CADUS



Support of local rescue services

Our mission is coordinated through the EMT structure of the World Health Organization (WHO). Among other things, it handles communication with the conflict parties.

On February 5, 2024, the first CADUS team entered Gaza. Since then, we have supported our local colleagues in several **hospital emergency rooms** and worked together with the Palestinian Red Crescent (PCRS) at several **Trauma Stabilization Points (TSPs)**. Together, we have been able to care for **over 4,600** seriously injured and ill **patients**.

Due to the ongoing bombing, we have repeatedly been confronted with **mass casualty incidents**. This requires treating a large number of seriously injured patients within a short period of time. This is a particularly stressful task, especially given the limited resources in the war zone.

Since November 2024, we have also been **providing medical support** for the permanent **presence of the UN and other aid organizations in North Gaza**.



Medical Evacuations (MedEvac)

According to UN estimates*, **up to 13,000 patients in Gaza require treatment abroad.**

Since March 2024, we have been conducting regular **medical evacuations** (MedEvac). Patients are transported to hospitals under difficult conditions to ensure adequate medical care. With the ability to **transport intensive care patients**, we fill a critical gap in the rescue chain within Gaza.

Most of the transports take place from the north to the south of Gaza. If possible, the patients are treated there or evacuated further abroad. However, the need for MedEvacs is significantly greater than has been possible so far.

For this purpose, we have a **team of 9-10 people** on site, 4-5 of whom are medically trained, as well as **two ambulances** equipped with equipment to provide care for seriously injured and ill patients during the journey.

* <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-25-march-2025>, 27th March 2025

73

MedEvacs carried out in Gaza.

308

Patients and 351 relatives transported.



Wearing helmets and protective vests makes the already challenging care of intensive care patients on MedEvacs even more difficult. Photo: CADUS



Many people in Gaza have been displaced or forced to flee with their families multiple times. Photo: Mattia Bidoli/CADUS



Life-saving trainings

On our medical training courses, we teach **skills and techniques that can save lives** in an emergency.

Our participants are local medical and non-medical personnel. A total of **321 people** have now completed **one of our four training courses**, which include "Stop the Bleed" and "Basic Trauma Management". Participants learn how to treat wounds, stop bleeding, and stabilize circulation as first responders.

In a war zone like Gaza, the training courses help people care for their own family, friends, and neighbors in an emergency.

The training courses also promote the **self-help capacities** of local communities beyond the acute situation.



In our training, we teach important techniques, such as applying a tourniquet to tie off extremities with heavily bleeding wounds and thus prevent bleeding to death. Photo: CADUS



The destruction in Gaza is massive, giving an idea of the injuries the bombs inflict on people. Photo: Mattia Bidoli/CADUS



Deployment planning in the Makerspace

Mission planning and preparation take place at the CADUS Crisis Response Makerspace in Berlin.

Our workshop and logistics base is a multipurpose area. Not only do we pack our vital equipment and medication, but we conduct our **briefings and safety training** here.

Our **HEAT (Hostile Environment Awareness Training)** is of central importance. In this multi-day, full-day course, participants are **prepared in a practical way for their deployment in conflict zones**. Living and working together in a group is just as important as behavior at checkpoints, making decisions under extreme stress, and planning and conducting missions in dangerous areas.

[More about the
Makerspace](#)

[More about our
HEAT](#)



Our makerspace is not only the hub for our logistics, but also regularly serves as the backdrop for our HEATs. Photo: CADUS

Your donation for emergency response

With your donation, you enable us to support the people of Gaza independently of public funds – and save lives!

#GlobalSolidarityNow

A fundraiser at a company party or a corporate donation are also great ways to support us.

CADUS is a non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible for German residencies.

[Donate now](#)

Donation account:

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Our emergency response in Gaza is only possible thanks to the donations of our supporters.
Photo: CADUS

More about our Gaza mission

Amy Neilson is an emergency doctor and was part of our medical team in Gaza. She shares her experiences as a humanitarian in a war zone and the danger that brings to rescue workers and civilians alike. Even a year later her text couldn't be more relevant.

[I have worked in the world's most dangerous combat zones. Never have I felt as unsafe as I did in Gaza](#)

15th May 2024

In this article Sandy, a US based nurse, gives insights into the medical work in the war torn Gaza strip. A deployment between heartwarming moments of kindness and the harsh reality of war.

[Fairfax nurse recalls horror, heartbreak of mission in Gaza](#)

20th May 2024

This podcast features Hareen who was in Gaza as our Head of Mission. From mass casualty incidents to the challenges of daily life in a war zone, this episode offers a raw and insightful look into the realities of providing medical care in one of the world's most dangerous areas.

[On the Front Lines of Humanitarian Medicine in Gaza with Hareen De Silva](#)

2nd July 2024



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