

World Organization of Family Doctors

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2 June 2026

Dear Shabir,

Re: Response to your correspondence to the WONCA Executive Committee

Thank you for your correspondence to the WONCA Executive Committee, and for the draft article submitted for possible publication in WONCA News.

The Executive Committee considered your correspondence in detail at its May 2026 meeting. We recognized the seriousness of the humanitarian and professional concerns you raised, especially those relating to the protection of patients, health workers, health facilities, and access to care in conflict settings.

The Executive also noted that WONCA has already issued statements addressing the protection of health workers and patients in conflict settings, and has expressed support for family doctors and communities affected by conflict. After discussion, the Executive resolved that WONCA's current position should stand, with reference to the [statement](#) published in August 2025.

The Executive further considered whether your correspondence constituted a formal complaint under the WONCA Bylaws. It resolved that it does not constitute a formal complaint. The Bylaws provide a specific process for complaints concerning a Member Organization, and that process must be followed where a formal complaint is intended.

The Executive also considered the draft newsletter article. It resolved to defer a decision on publication at this stage.

The Executive discussed the importance of WONCA maintaining its role as a global organization of family medicine, with a focus on health, care, medical neutrality, and support for family doctors in all conflict-affected settings. We also discussed the value of dialogue where this may be possible. In that spirit, WONCA encourages you to consider reaching out directly to the Israel Association of Family Physicians.

Thank you again for raising these concerns and for your continued engagement with WONCA's values and responsibilities.

With best wishes,

Prof Viviana Martinez-Bianchi

WONCA President