

16 November 2023  
*For immediate release*

## **Statement on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza**

As a non-governmental organization advocating for international understanding through children's books and upholding the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) joins the worldwide call for an immediate ceasefire and release of hostages in Gaza. For all of us who have committed a lifetime to serving children, we cannot bear the continuing loss of children's lives. We are reeling from news of the rapidly escalating conflict in the region, recognizing that in this horrific crisis of death and destruction, it is innocent children who suffer the most. As a global community represented in over 80 countries, we stand together in our demand to end this humanitarian crisis.

Further, we extend our call to all organizations and individuals who work in the fields of information, education, and publishing, to join us in speaking up for the rights of all children and youth. It is our collective moral obligation to protect all the children of our world and condemn all forms of violence against them.

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)