

29 September 2025

Mr. Glenn Micallef  
European Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth Culture and Sport  
European Commission  
Brussels

Sent by email

**Subject: Urgent call to end the war in Palestine and the suffering in Gaza**

Dear Commissioner Micallef,

At our recent General Assembly, the members of the European Athletes and Players Association (EAPA), representing more than 25,000 athletes across Europe, agreed to address you and the European Commission on an issue that goes far beyond sport, but which deeply impacts humanity.

As athletes and player representatives, we feel compelled to add our voice to the growing global demand to end the horrific war in Palestine. The continuing suffering of the people of Gaza, the hostilities carried out by Israel, and the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe have reached levels that international bodies, human rights organisations, and legal experts have described as genocide. At the same time, we call on Hamas to release all hostages without condition, bringing an end to the cycle of violence and despair.

Athletes across the world are uniting in calling for an immediate halt to the violence. Sport is built on values of fairness, respect, and the sanctity of human life — values that are being violated daily in this conflict. It is no longer possible to remain silent. Belonging to the international sporting community requires a genuine respect for these principles.

While recognising your public stance on the issue, we respectfully urge you, and through you the European Commission, to exert the fullest possible influence and apply all available political, economic, and diplomatic pressures to bring this war to an end, to protect innocent lives, and to help lay the foundations for peace and justice.

The credibility of Europe as a champion of human rights and human dignity depends on decisive action in this moment.

Yours sincerely,

**The Board of the European Athletes and Players Association**

