



Jerusalem, October 31, 2023

Samantha Shann - President  
World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)  
[admin@wfot.org](mailto:admin@wfot.org)

Dear President,

We are occupational therapists, researchers, lecturers, and clinicians at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. We are writing you following your October 27, World OT Day, message, stating that: "What unites us as an occupational therapy community is our shared humanity". We truly identify with this statement, and therefore were deeply disappointed that your message did not relate to the horrific, inhumane attack on Israel that occurred on October 7th, 2023.

We expected that WFOT would condemn the slaughter of 1400 Israeli and foreigners (from over 20 countries), innocent civilians by the Hamas terror organization, the beheading of babies and children, as well as the raping and torturing of young girls and women.

We expected that WFOT would condemn and call for the immediate release of over 200 hostages, babies, children, individuals with special needs and elderly, including Carmel Gat, an OT who is also a graduate student at the Hebrew University and Keith Siegel.

We expected that WFOT would call Hamas to provide information as to the condition of these hostages and supply the much-needed medical care to the wounded hostages and those with chronic diseases.

We ask that WFOT, who believes in social and occupational justice and humanity, join the WHO's call for immediate release, access to, and medical support for hostages taken by Hamas ([WHO calls for immediate release, access to, and medical support for hostages taken by Hamas](#)).

Sincerely,

Prof. Naomi Weintraub 	Prof. Adina Maeir 	Prof. Yafit Gilboa 
Prof. Mor Nahum 	Dr. Anat Golos 	Dr. Hagit Magen 
Dr. Ruthie Traub Bar Ilan 	Dr. Lena Lipskaya-Velikovsky 	
Dr. Tal Mazor-Karsenty 	Dr. Danit Langer 	Dr. Aviva Yochman 
Dr. Miri Tal-Saban 	Dr. Aviva Beit Yosef 	Dr. Ben Aharonson 
Dr. Lori Rosenberg 	Dr. Nirit Levanon-Erez 	
Dr. Roni Shenkar 	Miriam Kerem 	Dr. Orit Fisher 
Tehila Heller-Amsalem 	Cohavit Levy Mazaki 	Avital Felix 
Jennifer Budman 	Shahar Vittenberg 	Reut Komemi 
Stav Ben-Zagmi Averbuch 	Haya Fogel-Grinvald 	

