

Statement of the Visegrad Group Academies Forum on the recent terrorist attack and the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe in Israel and Gaza and in support of the innocent

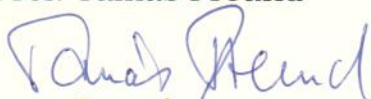
During its annual meeting on 18–19 October 2023 in Warsaw, the Visegrad Group Academies Forum agreed on the following statement.

The Visegrad Group Academies stand in shock and horror of the terrorists acts of inhuman brutality committed by Hamas in Israel and the Gaza Strip. We express our profound sympathy to the victims' families and traumatized civilians as they struggle to recover from this vile aggression.

The Visegrad Group Academies condemn all forms of terrorism and military aggression claiming innocent lives. We express our deepest concern about the prospect of the escalation of violence that would only increase the already unbearable suffering of the vulnerable on both sides.

The Visegrad Group Academies firmly believe that science, cognition and education may serve as a crucial instrument to enhance mutual understanding and acceptance between nations torn by deep-rooted tensions and historic strife. We share the hope that passions and seething anger may still cede their place to conflict resolution and peaceful cooperation.

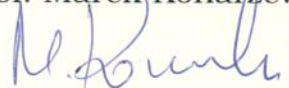
Prof. Tamás Freund



President

Hungarian Academy of Sciences

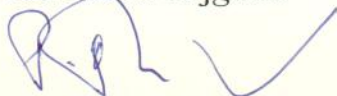
Prof. Marek Konarzewski



President

Polish Academy of Sciences

Prof. Pavol Šajgalík



President

Slovak Academy of Sciences

Prof. Eva Zažímalová



President

Czech Academy of Sciences

Warsaw, 18 October 2023