

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New Report Documents Over 17,500 Attacks on Health Care Since Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2286 Intended to Reinforce Protection of Health Care in Conflict**

#### **Ten years after states pledged to protect health care in conflict, violence against health workers and facilities continues to rise**

**Geneva, 15 June 2026** – Insecurity Insight launched a major new report analysing a decade of violence against health care following the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2286 in 2016. Drawing on ten years of systematically collected data, the report documents the scale, patterns, and consequences of attacks on health care in conflict-affected settings worldwide.

The report, based exclusively on Insecurity Insight's monitoring of violence against health care, records over **17,500 attacks on health care between January 2016 and December 2025**. Rather than declining after the adoption of UNSCR 2286 that reaffirmed state's commitment, reports of attacks increased sharply, particularly since 2019.

The findings show that threats and violence against health care is becoming normalised in many conflicts, with devastating consequences for health workers, patients, disease response efforts, and the functioning of health systems.

“Ten years ago, states unanimously reaffirmed that health care must be protected during armed conflict. Yet our data show that attacks on health care continue at an alarming scale and, in many contexts, have become an accepted feature of warfare,” said **Christina Wille, Director of Insecurity Insight**. “The consequences extend far beyond the immediate victims. When health workers are killed, arrested, or forced to flee, and when health facilities are damaged or destroyed, entire communities lose access to essential care. This report demonstrates why protecting health care must remain a political, humanitarian, and operational priority.”

#### **Among the report's key findings:**

- Over **17,500 attacks on health care** were recorded between January 2016 and December 2025.
- Over **3,860 health workers were killed** during the period.
- Over **2,500 health workers were arrested or detained**.

- Local health workers remain particularly vulnerable, accounting for more than **65 percent of documented health worker killings**.
- The growing use of **armed drones and explosive weapons** is contributing to increasing damage to health facilities and health worker killings and injuries.

The report highlights how attacks on health care directly undermine the capacity of health systems to treat the wounded and sick, disrupt disease prevention and control efforts and restrict access to essential services, leading to preventable illness and death.

“Attacks on health care are not isolated incidents; they are indicators of broader risks facing civilian populations during conflict,” said **Ana Elisa Barbar, Board Member of Insecurity Insight**. “The evidence collected by Insecurity Insight over the past decade demonstrates the urgent need for stronger implementation of international humanitarian law, more effective investigations into violations, and greater investment in measures that prevent and mitigate humanitarian consequences of these attacks.”

The report provides detailed analysis of perpetrators, methods of attack and emerging risks, including the growing role of new technologies in conflict environments. It also offers recommendations for governments, international organisations, humanitarian actors and the diplomatic community aimed at strengthening the protection of health care and improving accountability for violations.

Insecurity Insight hopes the report will support policymakers, diplomats, researchers and humanitarian practitioners by providing a robust evidence base for briefings, reports, advocacy and operational planning. The report also includes thematic analysis and tailored data that can help stakeholders better understand patterns of violence, including attacks attributed to state and non-state armed actors.

### **About Insecurity Insight**

Insecurity Insight is an independent, Switzerland-based non-profit organisation that identifies threats to civilians, aid operations, health care, education, food and water systems, and other essential services in conflict and insecurity settings. Through systematic data collection and analysis, Insecurity Insight supports evidence-based protection, accountability, and policy responses.

**Read the full report:** <https://bit.ly/10YearHealthReport2026>

**Executive Summary:** <https://bit.ly/10YearHealthReport2026ExSum>

**Global Map:** [10 Years of Attacks on Health Care](#)

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