

## **Press Release – 6 June 2026**

### **Gaza – Prominent doctor illegally detained by Israel placed in isolation**

**Geneva (LAW)** — Legal Action Worldwide is alarmed by reports that Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya has been transferred from Negev Prison to solitary confinement in Nafha Prison. This transfer follows the filing of an appeal before the Israeli Supreme Court on 21 May 2026 challenging the continuation of his detention.

This development is particularly alarming given Dr. Abu Safiya's medical condition and the severe physical and psychological harm that can result from prolonged isolation. In response, his legal team has requested that the Supreme Court expedite consideration of his appeal. A hearing is now scheduled for 10 June 2026.

Serious concerns also remain regarding Dr. Abu Safiya's access to adequate medical care. While counsel reports that he has recently been examined by both a general practitioner and an ophthalmologist, he has reportedly not received all of his prescribed medication and has yet to be provided with his prescription glasses.

*"The reported transfer of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya to solitary confinement is an alarming escalation,"* said Antonia Mulvey, Executive Director of LAW. *"This is a doctor who remained with his patients while his hospital was under siege and attack. Medical professionals are protected under international humanitarian law, and we cannot remain silent while doctors are punished for providing medical care in times of conflict."*

Dr. Abu Safiya's prolonged detention without charge, solitary confinement, and ongoing concerns regarding access to necessary medical treatment raises serious questions regarding Israel's obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.


Dr. Abu Safiya, a physician and director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, was arrested by Israeli forces on 27 December 2024 during an operation against the hospital. He has remained in detention since that date without being charged with a criminal offence.

LAW, which represents Dr. Abu Safiya before international human rights mechanisms, calls for his immediate removal from solitary confinement, full access to adequate medical care, and a prompt and fair judicial review of his continued detention.

#### **About Legal Action Worldwide (LAW)**

LAW is an independent global organization that provides innovative legal assistance to survivors of human rights violations and advocates for accountability in some of the world's most challenging contexts.

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