

14 October 2024

**Questions put to the Israel Defense Forces:**

Dear IDF media team,

I work on the ABC's Media Watch program ([www.abc.net.au/mediawatch](http://www.abc.net.au/mediawatch)) in Australia. We're looking at reported IDF strikes on media inside Gaza in recent days, including Hassan Hamad and Fadi Al-Wahidi.

Hassan Hamad died apparently from a direct Israeli strike on his bedroom, where he was staying. Reports say he'd been contacted by an IDF officer in the days before he died, and that officer had warned him to stop his Gaza coverage.

Fadi Al-Wahidi is a cameraman who was seriously injured after being struck in the neck by Israeli gunfire while covering events in Jabalia.

We're hoping the IDF can respond to the following questions:

Did the IDF deliberately target and strike Hassan Hamad, resulting in his death? If so, why?

Did an IDF commander contact him via WhatsApp in the period before his death, warning him to stop his coverage of the strikes on Gaza?

Did the IDF deliberately shoot at clearly identified members of the media in Jabalia in the last few days, including Fadi Al-Wahidi?

How does the IDF explain the injuries and deaths of members of the media who're clearly identified as "PRESS" (due to their distinctive jackets) in the last 12 months?

What's the IDF's policy on avoiding harming/killing members of the media?

Does the IDF have any response to the death toll of journalists/media personnel in Gaza since 7 October '23 (about 130 Palestinian journalists/media operators killed so far)?

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**Response from the Israel Defense Forces:**

In response to Hamas' barbaric attacks, the IDF is operating to dismantle Hamas military capabilities.

In stark contrast to Hamas' intentional attacks on Israeli men, women and children, the IDF follows international law and takes feasible precautions to mitigate civilian harm.

We could better address your query if you were able to provide relevant coordinates and the specific time.