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Guardians of Equality Movement

statement

In Solidarity with the people of Lebanon.

Lebanese people have been suffering from multiple crises for years, and they're supposed to be recovering today, not facing another one.

We are horrified by the devastating situation in Lebanon, and we are sending our solidarity not only through thoughts but also through actions. At the Guardians of Equality Movement (GEM), we are on high alert and preparing to respond to the crisis unfolding in our dear neighbor Lebanese people. We have reached out to the most active LGBTQIA+ organizations in Lebanon, as well as other relevant groups, offering our support to help mitigate the impact of this crisis. Many of the Syrian refugees we support in Lebanon have been deeply affected as well, as they were already in vulnerable situations as sexual and gender minorities, in addition to being refugees.

The Lebanese people have been suffering from back-to-back crises, with no opportunity for recovery and justice. Massive displacement is currently taking place in Lebanon due to the escalation, and we at GEM are striving to support both the Lebanese people and refugees affected by this crisis, especially those who are multiply marginalized, such as the LGBTQIA+ community.

The refugee community in Lebanon continues to face extreme vulnerability, and the current escalation is compounding the hardship for many, particularly within the LGBTQIA+ community. Imagine enduring such a dire situation as an LGBTQIA+ individual, already marginalized as both Queer and a Refugee, and now facing yet another displacement.

We call on the international community to push harder for peace and stability in the region. The ongoing escalation and instability not only affect the region itself but also pose a threat to global security.

We wish peace and protection to all civilians across the region, and an end to this ongoing struggle.

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