

Now more than ever we must raise our voices to ensure that the UK Government commits to protecting civilians in conflict zones.

There are major international conferences taking place across 2019 and 2020. Your voice will play a part in ensuring a positive end to the Stop Bombing Civilians campaign.

This is not just a UK wide call to action. From the UN Secretary-General to thousands of individuals and clubs you will be joining with other supporters across the globe.

Writing to your Member of Parliament only takes a few minutes and costs very little. But your action could save lives.

If you would rather send an email to your MP you can do that instead! Use our online tool at:

humanity-inclusion.org.uk/email-your-mp

Write to your MP in 5 easy steps:

1. The Approach

Contact details of your MP's constituency office and other contact details can be found on the Parliament website www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/

The salutation to use for most 'backbench' MPs is simply Mrs/Ms/Mr. In your letter's 'sign-off' you can use 'Yours sincerely'. Further information can be found on the Debretts website: <http://bit.ly/2mkckQB>

2. The Background – set the scene

Introduce yourself. Whether you're writing as an individual or a club, let them know that you're based in their constituency.

Mention that you are writing about Humanity & Inclusion's Stop Bombing Civilians campaign which is calling on the UK and all States worldwide to better protect civilians from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas

Meet Kamal



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"I never used weapons, and yet it was me that was bombed."

Kamal, 15 years old, was at home when a bomb fell. His legs were crushed. Now living with his family in Jordan, Humanity & Inclusion is helping his by providing him with physical rehabilitation and psychosocial support.

By writing to your MP you will be shaping a safer future for people like Kamal.

Thank you.

3. The Issue – explain the problem

Highlight that explosive weapons used in populated areas causes deaths and injuries, creates psychological trauma, destroys infrastructure and leaves areas dangerous to return with explosive debris. All of this takes generations to mend and is disastrous for communities.

Use hard hitting facts to highlight the issue like:

- When explosive weapons are used in populated areas, **90% of the victims are civilians**
- Every **24 minutes**, an explosive weapon claim's a civilian's life, limb, or mind
- In 2018, **32,110 deaths and injuries** were recorded from the use of explosive weapons
- Incidents involving explosive weapons were recorded in **64 countries in the world in 2018**
- In the **five deadliest conflicts** in 2017, **nearly three-quarters of the child casualties were caused by explosive weapons.**

4. The Importance – why it matters

Ensure that your MP knows their support matters and has a role to play.

The UK has recognised that there are humanitarian concerns over the use of explosive weapons in populated areas **but more can be done.**

The UK Government has an important part to come play on the world stage to lead other States in committing to protect civilians in conflict.

Your MP can play a part in making sure that the conversation is continued and positive action is taken.

5. The Solution – what you can ask your MP to do

- a. Raise a written or oral question in Parliament** – as the campaign changes we will need to adapt questions to the situation. Contact us for more support.
- b. Sign the Stop Bombing Civilians petition** at <https://bit.ly/StopBombingNow> and share it on social media
- c. Meet with Club members to discuss the campaign further. This could be before a club meeting; at a constituency surgery, or in Parliament.** (Humanity & Inclusion would be pleased to help facilitate this, provide support, and attend any meetings).

What next?

- Please let us know if you send an letter and who your MP is
- Please let us know when you receive a reply
- Do be in touch if you would like any support with writing of your letter – we'd be more than happy to help in any way that we can!
- Recognise the incredible impact that your letter will have and the important part you are playing in saving lives and protecting generations into the future.