



सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता संघ, नेपाल SOCIAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION, NEPAL

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Statement on Recent Incidents in the Gen Z Protest

We are deeply concerned by the tragic events that unfolded during the Gen Z protest yesterday (8 September 2025), which has caused immense pain and shock across Nepal. The participation of young people—who represent the voice of justice, change, and the future of the nation—underscores the urgency of listening to their aspirations.

We regret that peaceful demonstrations by youths were met with disproportionate measures. States have a fundamental obligation to protect the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association—core human rights enshrined in Nepal's Constitution as well as in international human rights instruments to which Nepal is a party. Instead of responding with sensitivity and dialogue, the resort to force is both troubling and inconsistent with democratic and human rights principles.

Our thoughts are with those injured, and we wish them a swift recovery. We extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and stand in solidarity with all who are grieving.

We urge the Government of Nepal to engage with young people in a spirit of dialogue and constructive problem-solving, ensuring that their voices are heard and their concerns addressed. Respecting democratic principles and safeguarding civic space are essential to building trust, stability, and a just society.

At the same time, we appeal to social workers across Nepal to extend their solidarity and support in every way possible—through advocacy, psychosocial assistance, community mobilization, and by standing alongside young people in their pursuit of justice and dignity.

Pratik Sharma Lamichhane

President