



University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union
16 Bancroft Avenue
Toronto ON, M5S 1C1
info@utgsu.ca
416-978-2391
www.utgsu.ca

RE: Earthquakes in Southern Turkey and Northern Syria

February 9, 2023

The University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (UTGSU) is deeply saddened by the devastating massive earthquake that hit the region of Southern Turkey and Northern Syria on February 6, 2023. The initial 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit close to Gaziantep which was followed by another 7.5 earthquake claiming thousands of lives. While the extreme weather conditions are restricting the humanitarian work, the Turkish government calls for international assistance and issued a level 4 alarm to describe the disaster and its impact on the survivors.

The UTGSU would like to extend sincere condolences to those affected by this recent tragedy. To the people of Turkey and Syria, the diaspora, and our friends and family of the University of Toronto community affected by the Earthquake, know that you are in our thoughts as we grieve this tragic loss. We also encourage students affected by this tragedy to seek support. There is a list of mental health supports provided below

If it is within your capacity, please donate to organizations supporting Turkey and Syria. Below is a list of organizations you can consider. Please note that the Donation Resources mentioned below are listed to facilitate those seeking ways to donate and are third party organizations with no affiliations to the UTGSU.

In solidarity,
UTGSU Executive



University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union
16 Bancroft Avenue
Toronto ON, M5S 1C1
info@utgsu.ca
416-978-2391
www.utgsu.ca

Donation Resources:

Canada Based Organizations:

The Humanitarian Coalition - Canada
UNHCR Canada

Community Specific Organizations:

For Syria
For Turkey
For Kurdish community

University of Toronto Health and Mental Wellness Services:

24/7 Emergency Counseling Services:

U of T My Student Support Program (My SSP) | **1-844-451-9700**. Outside of North America, call **001-416-380-6578**. Culturally-competent mental health and counseling services **in 146 languages** for all U of T students.

Good2Talk Student Helpline | **1-866-925-5454**

Professional counseling, information and referrals helpline for mental health, addictions and students well-being.

Student Life: Health and Wellness:

Support when you feel distressed-University of Toronto