

# Can the Already Very Serious Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen Worsen Further?

By [Bharat Dogra](#)

Global Research, July 26, 2024

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#)

*On July 23 the UN Envoy for Yemen **Hans Grundberg** informed the Security Council that recent developments in the Red Sea, Israel and inside Yemen “show the real danger of a devastating region-wide escalation.” This statement was made in the context of Israel’s air strike on Yemen and the preceding strikes by the Houthi rebels against Israel and ships in the Red Sea.*

Further Grundberg noted with distress, “It is alarming that there are no signs of de-escalation, let alone solution.” While this escalation is deeply worrying in itself, what is no less worrying is the impact this can have on the already very serious humanitarian crisis in the country. While attacks and the resulting damage can deepen the humanitarian crisis, these also increase the possibilities of disruption of humanitarian aid.

In 2020 when the USA had suddenly made big cuts in the humanitarian aid for Yemen, along with cuts made by Saudi Arabia and UAE, this had led to terrible results with sudden big increase in hospital admissions of seriously ill and malnourished children.

So what should be clearly decided now is that regardless of political developments, a clear decision should be taken that no cuts in humanitarian assistance will be made.

Amidst all the worrying news, one good development has been that there are reports of the government and Houthi rebels resolving differences to some extent. At the level of the people also, there are growing signs that they want unity and peace. The southern separatists should also respond to the growing need for peace and unity. If internal peace and unity can increase, then at least the distribution of humanitarian assistance can improve significantly so that those most in need can be assured of this help reaching them in time.

In addition clearly there is need for increasing humanitarian assistance considerably as funds availability just now is considerable short of real needs.

Yemen has a population of 34.7 million and nearly two-thirds of people are in need of humanitarian assistance, although some estimates mention an even higher number.

Yemen is the poorest country of West Asia with high levels of poverty and malnutrition reported even before the present conflict started. In the course of the nine-year conflict during 2015-24 the humanitarian situation has steadily worsened. Some estimates mention nearly 370,000 conflict-related deaths with a high percentage of child deaths. Over 3 million people have been displaced, several of them multiple times. In addition there are several displaced people and refugees from Somalia staying in Yemen. Disease outbreaks and

starvation deaths have been reported from time to time. As the number of hungry and vulnerable people is very high, any further deterioration of food availability can lead to famine conditions on a much larger scale and famine deaths.

Clearly in these conditions there is need for increasing humanitarian assistance, internal peace and unity as well as de-escalation of international conflict. Foreign interventions in Yemen's conflict had considerably aggravated the distress of the people of Yemen at various stages and attempts should be made to at least partially make up for this by increasing humanitarian assistance.

\*

Click the share button below to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

### **[Spread the Truth, Refer a Friend to Global Research](#)**

**Bharat Dogra** is Honorary Convener, Campaign to Save Earth Now. His recent books include *Planet in Peril*, *Protecting Earth for Children*, *A Day in 2071* and *Man over Machine*. He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

*Featured image is licensed under Creative Commons/Felton Davis*

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Bharat Dogra](#), Global Research, 2024

---

### **[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)**

### **[Become a Member of Global Research](#)**

Articles by: **[Bharat Dogra](#)**

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)