R2 Bans Off Our Bodies: Protecting Bodily Autonomy and Reproductive Justice

Proposer: DWARS, Grüne Jugend, Grön Ungdom and Young Greens of South Tyrol

Agenda item: 7. Resolutions

Motion text

Access to abortion is not just a healthcare issue, but a matter of human rights, gender equality, and social justice. The European Union must take decisive action to protect bodily autonomy, prevent unnecessary suffering, and defend democracy against far-right extremism. A progressive, inclusive, and feminist Europe is one where every individual has the right to make decisions about their own body: without fear, stigma, or political interference.

Recognizing that:

1. Abortion is a basic human right and an essential part of reproductive healthcare. It must be accessible, safe, legal, and free from stigma.

2. The criminalization and restriction of abortion do not prevent abortions but rather drive individuals towards unsafe and life-threatening procedures that disproportionately harm marginalized communities.

3. Far-right and conservative movements across Europe are actively working to restrict reproductive rights, weaponizing abortion to advance nationalist and oppressive ideologies.

4. International and European legal frameworks, including the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (Article 3, 4, 8, 21) and the European Convention on Human Rights (Article 3,14), recognize the rights to bodily autonomy, non-discrimination, and protection from inhumane treatment.

5. The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (Articles 9 and 168) allows for European action on public health matters, particularly when fundamental rights are at risk.

6. The European Commission has a legal responsibility to support Member States in ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, as per the EU4Health Program and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Concerned that:

1. Many EU Member States still deny or severely restrict access to abortion, violating the principles of human dignity, equality, and self-determination.

2. Anti-choice rhetoric is growing among far-right and conservative parties, as evidenced by their attempts to frame reproductive rights as “extreme” and their use of disinformation to erode public support.

3. In countries where abortion is highly restricted, safe abortion has become a privilege of the wealthy, while marginalized groups are forced into unsafe procedures, increasing maternal mortality and morbidity.

4. The rollback of abortion rights in certain EU states, such as Poland, has already led to unnecessary deaths, further proving that restrictive policies endanger lives.

5. The lack of a unified European response has left millions of women and pregnant people without the healthcare they need, undermining the EU’s commitment to gender equality and public health.

Resolves that:

1. The member states of the European Union must enshrine the right to abortion in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, ensuring access across all Member States. France’s recent adopted amendment of its Constitution proves this is possible.

2. Abortion must be fully decriminalized across Europe, removing it from national penal codes and guaranteeing it as a right under civil and constitutional law.

3. A European Safe Abortion Fund should be created to financially support Member States that provide abortion care for individuals unable to access it in their home countries.

4. The European Commission must implement an opt-in mechanism that allows Member States to receive EU funding for abortion services, ensuring cross-border reproductive healthcare.

5. Abortion pills must be widely accessible through pharmacies, telemedicine, and national healthcare systems to prevent barriers to access.

6. The EU must actively counter disinformation from far-right anti-choice movements, ensuring that pro-choice policies and reproductive rights are

communicated clearly and effectively in all EU languages.

7. Healthcare professionals providing abortion services must be protected from legal harassment and criminalization, ensuring their ability to offer essential care without fear.

8. Medical professionals entering in fields where abortion services are offered, such as gynecology, must certify they will perform abortion or other contraceptive services. The right of a doctor to say ‘no’ must not override the right of pregnant people to access abortion care.

9. Sexual and reproductive health education must be strengthened in all EU countries, emphasizing science-based, non-judgmental information about abortion and contraception.

10. Member States that systematically restrict abortion rights should face consequences, including withholding EU health and gender equality funding until they comply with basic human rights standards. Consequences may include initiating a procedure under Article 7 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU), leading to the suspension of the concerned Member State's right to vote in the Council of the EU.

Calls on:

- The Greens/EFA to pressure the European Commission to propose legislative measures that ensure universal access to abortion in the EU.
- The Greens/EFA to advocate for the European Parliament to pass a resolution reaffirming reproductive rights as a fundamental European value.
- Green parties to pressure national governments to resist far-right pressure and implement policies that protect and expand abortion access.
- Civil society organizations and MO’s continue mobilizing for abortion rights and fighting misinformation.

Supporters

Nora Axberg (Grön Ungdom), Ignasi Digón (Joves Ecosocialistes), Gabriella Ferrara (GEV - Giovani Europeisti Verdi)