

Draft Emergency resolution

1 EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON THE DRAFT LAW ON ABORTION IN SPAIN

2 3 RESOLUTION OF THE EGP AGAINST THE DRAFT LAW ON PROTECTION OF RIGHTS 4 OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND IN DEFENSE OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS 5 AND VOLUNTARY TERMINATION PREGNANCY 6 7

8 In front of the adoption of the Draft Law designed to protect the rights of pregnant women
9 that has recently presented the conservative Government in Spain, we European Greens want
10 to show our opposition to a Draft Law that represents an unacceptable step back on women's
11 rights to decide about their own bodies. It also represents a direct aggression to women's
12 rights and freedom.
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14 The proposed Law on Sexual and Reproductive Rights and voluntary interruption of
15 pregnancy presented by the PP conservative Government means a disparagement for
16 women's rights. From a strong ultraconservative and reactionary perspective, it responds to
17 the pressures and the desire of the Spanish Episcopal Conference and it means the hardest
18 step back on this field of our democratic era.
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20 Limiting abortion in only two cases, when serious danger of physical or mental health, and for
21 life of the pregnant woman; and when pregnancy as the result of a crime rape, it places
22 Spanish legal framework far away from international treaties. Far away from many European
23 Resolutions, and from any of the recommendations of the World Health Organization in the
24 field of sexual and reproductive rights. And it relegates women's rights to the levels of
25 countries that do not subscribe to international treaties and violates human rights.
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27 On the proposed Draft, the right for women to decide on their own body is transferred to
28 the supervision of doctors, who at the same time, are placed under penal threats based on
29 retrogrades moral criteria that have little to do with ethics or scientific criteria.

30 The ideological basis of this Draft Law is considering women as subjects without rights that
31 should be tutelary, and undermine their freedom by prioritizing the defence of the supposed
32 rights "of the conceived".
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34 This misogynist fundamentalism brings Spain back to the times where abortion was only the
35 privilege of those who could economically afford it. Encouraging, thus, economic
36 discrimination that will bring women to clandestine abortions, increasing the risk for their
37 health and their lives.
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39 This Draft Law only follows the general framework of the ideological basis of the conservative
40 policies and laws that the conservative PP Government has been applying since their arrival in
41 2011 in many fields such as social and workers rights, environmental or educational.
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43 It has been proven that these so restrictive laws are completely useless in terms of reducing
44 unwanted pregnancies. Data shows that the rate of miscarriage is lower in countries where
45 more permissive laws. It is, therefore, a Draft Law that will not mean effective solutions to

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46 reduce the number of abortions by being the result of hypocrisy and the imposed institutional
47 sexism that promotes the reactionary right.

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49 The promotion of health and sexual education are the measures that public institutions must
50 prioritize to secure and strengthen sexual and reproductive rights. Voluntary termination of
51 pregnancy and contraception methods should be guaranteed rights from the public health
52 system.

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54 We must continue the fighting, not only to avoid any step back, but for all the remaining steps
55 to advance on achieving all women's rights in Spain and elsewhere.

56 For all these reasons, and against the serious attack of social and civil rights the sexist
57 patriarchal culture that the Spanish Government expressing in many fields,

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59 we, European Greens,

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61 • Call the Spanish Government for an immediate withdrawal of the Draft Law on
62 Abortion, cynically called for the protection of the rights of the pregnant woman and
63 of the rights of the conceived.

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65 • Will continue defending the rights and freedom for women, and will continue
66 boosting initiatives and measures to improve along the EU, policies on sexual and
67 reproductive rights that allow women to freely decide on her maternity.

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69 • Support and encourage the feminist movement in the struggle for the rights and
70 freedom for women in order to avoid serious setback imposed by this sexist
71 government.