



Right to abortion is a human right. It is under attack, let's fight for it!

1

2 While reactionary forces are rising globally, including ~~within~~ in the European Union,
3 sexual and reproductive health and rights are under heavy attack.

4 Among these rights, the right ~~for~~ and access to safe and legal abortion, achieved
5 through constant feminist struggles, ~~remains and still~~ unsatisfactory in most EU
6 countries. ~~It lacks a legal frame~~, is under constant pressure, and the target of attacks from anti-
7 choices and anti-rights movements. These attacks are part of long-term and
8 systemic strategies, aim~~ing~~ at progressively deteriorating this right, including
9 through passing regressive abortion laws, organizing global attacks on
10 constitutional rights and rule of law, ~~and~~ reducing ~~adequate the~~ financing of healthcare
11 systems providing ~~as prerequisite to claim access to~~ this right.

12 As a result, the scope of abortion rights and its effectiveness at the global
13 level is declining at an alarming rate.

14 **These attacks put lives in danger.** Restrictive abortion laws do not reduce the
15 number of abortions, but increase the number of unsafe abortions. As a matter of
16 fact, 45% of abortions in the world are not carried out safely, which leads to
17 one woman dying every nine minutes after an illegal abortion procedure. There
18 are ~~additional other~~ risks ~~too~~, when abortion does not form part of reproductive
19 healthcare, ~~because~~ women in need of life-saving procedures face ~~health consequences such as~~
20 ~~acquiring infections, suffer internal organ penetrations or sepsis which may result in~~ dying of
21 septic shock.

22 This has real-world consequences and has been observed recently in Poland. While
23 Malta's lack of holistic reproductive healthcare came into in view in summer
24 2022 when a woman, Andrea Prudente, had to be airlifted to Spain ~~in order to have to access to~~ a
25 life-saving abortion.

26 ~~The fights for the right to abortion, for reproductive rights and for disability justice share the same~~
27 ~~objective: the right to bodily autonomy and self-determination. Access to abortions and contraceptives~~
28 ~~are necessary for disabled people, yet they are often denied such healthcare. Meanwhile, forced~~
29 ~~sterilisation deeply impacts disabled people and other marginalised groups such as trans people and~~
30 ~~people of colour.~~

31 **These attacks worsen social injustice.** When abortion is illegal and
32 criminalized, vulnerable groups face higher barriers to manage unwanted
33 pregnancies and access abortion. As a consequence, poorer people, vulnerable,
34 and marginalized groups face greater danger when confronted with an unwanted
35 pregnancy.

36 **These attacks are also part of a wider political strategy to dismantle**
37 **democratic societies** based on individual rights and freedoms, especially women's

38 and minority rights and freedoms.

39 As European greens, **we place fighting for the right to safe and legal abortion**
40 **at the core of our political project**, because our political project is based on
41 bodily autonomy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, social justice, and
42 democracy.

43 As European Greens, we consider that is the fundamental right of anyone who can become
44 pregnant to be able to get a legal safe abortion, should they need or want one. This bodily
45 autonomy for all people who could get
46 pregnant, being cis-women, trans men and non-binary people, to decide if, how
47 and when they carry a pregnancy is a fundamental right that needs to be
48 **guaranteed, protected and fought for.**

49 We believe that legal abortions, like other healthcare, needs to be safe and
50 accessible and that this should be the case before, during and after the
51 procedure. In addition to the fundamental right to have a legal abortion, we
52 therefore consider that **making abortion easily accessible, in good psychological**
53 **and sanitary conditions is key.**

54 The protection and effective guarantee of this right is not only a matter of
55 fundamental rights and freedom, it is also a basic element of democratic
56 societies based on equal citizens' rights. Indeed, **the free access to proper and**
57 **safe healthcare also in reproductive matters**, is considered to be one of the
58 cornerstones of an egalitarian society.

59 We also acknowledge that **there is a direct link between limiting the right to**
60 **safe abortions and proper reproductive healthcare and the rise of**
61 **authoritarianism in Europe**

62 Countless people all across Europe and the world have been forced to turn to the
63 streets to demand that their voices be heard, and their rights to be secured.

64 To continue strengthening democracy in the world today, it is therefore crucial
65 to assert not just the legalization of abortions but the provision of safe, free
66 and accessible abortions in good psychological and sanitary conditions as a part
67 of securing bodily autonomy, especially when it comes to reproductive matters,
68 for everyone.

69 **In order to implement and strengthen this, the European Greens demand the**
70 **recognition of the fundamental right of anyone who could get pregnant, including cis women,**
71 **trans men, and non-binary**
72 **people and others that could get pregnant to:**

- 73 Control their own bodies and lives, and thereby decide when and if they
74 wish to become and stay pregnant.
- 75 Have access to a safe abortion in good psychological and sanitary
76 conditions, regardless of age, sex, gender, race, ethnicity, class, caste,



77 religious affiliation and beliefs, marital or socio-economic status,
78 disability, HIV or STI status, national and social origin, legal or
79 migration status, language, sexual orientation or gender identity

80 **Specifically, to practically achieve these goals, the European Greens:**

- 81 Defend the legalization of abortion in every country and fight to ban
82 rules and practices that require people who want to terminate their
83 pregnancy to go through unnecessary and stressful procedures where they
84 have to justify their will to access abortion.
- 85 Stand for access to safe and legal abortion to be included in the EU
86 Charter of Fundamental Rights, which should become directly applicable, as
87 soon as possible, and for the European Institutions to provide EU-wide
88 standards and [implement](#) best practices regarding abortion, [all of which can be used as an](#)
89 [example for non-EU countries in the wider Europe](#).
- 90 Welcome the initiatives to give these rights a constitutional protection
91 at national level and by doing so, to prevent lawmakers to attack them
92 easily.
- 93 Promote the development of administration and medical systems that are
94 patient-oriented, supportive and that abstain from shaming and violating
95 the physical and mental wellbeing of patients seeking an abortion.
- 96 Consider that information about abortion rights and more generally about
97 sexual and reproductive rights should be publicly available, including via
98 educational programs, and that actions aimed at jeopardizing the right to
99 people to access these rights should be banned.
- 100 Ask for the full inclusion of abortion costs, including pre- and post-
101 care, in the public healthcare system at no additional cost to
102 individuals. Furthermore, it should be possible for [all people in the EU citizens](#) to have
103 access to receive abortion free of charge in any Member State of the
104 European Union.
- 105 Support more public funding towards further research for medical abortion
106 care and better practices, and in general for women's reproductive and
107 sexual health.
- 108 Encourage the increase of public funding to educate medical personnel on
109 state-of-the-art procedures and practices and to provide medical personnel
110 with gender and LGBTQIA+ sensitivity and cultural competence training in
111 order to prioritize patient wellbeing.
- 112 Support more public funding to civil society organization that provide
113 medical counseling and access to abortion to people in countries where
114 they cannot access it.
- 115 Call for political asylum to be granted to people that face legal



116 repercussions for abortion rights activism and for having sought abortion.

117 Call on the European Union, member governments, aand non-EU governments in the wider
118 Europe to regulate the digital ownership of
119 reproductive health data in order to prevent health apps to share them
120 with government agencies.

121 Call for more transparency about research and strategic decisions of
122 pharmaceutical companies regarding pharmaceutical abortion, especially for
123 those companies that are based or whose parent company are based in
124 countries where abortion is illegal or inaccessible or where the
125 legislative system on the topic is ambiguous

126 Call for continuous, compulsory and homogeneous sexual education in all schools, free
127 from any religious conditioning. Besides tackling reproductive health and contraception, the
128 programme should also address sexual and gender stereotypes, as well as living sexuality,
129 pleasure and affection in a healthy, responsible and unprejudiced manner.

130 Call for free contraceptives to be distributed in every health care facility, pharmacy,
131 counseling center, school or university

132 **Furthermore, we demand to not support any anti-abortion movement or causes**
133 **linked to anti-abortion, implying:**

134 ~~Recognizing that anti-abortion and anti-choices movements are not~~
135 ~~respecting EU values and therefore should-not have access invest public money or other~~
136 ~~resources in anti-abortion movements or causes linked to anti-abortion, to the~~
137 ~~institutions of the European Union~~

138 To not invest public money in anti-abortion movements or causes linked to
139 anti-abortion.

140 Requesting political parties and organizations to disclose financial
141 contributions received by anti-abortion movements or causes linked to
142 anti-abortion.

143 **As the European Green Party, we commit:**

144 - To condemn any practice aimed at making abortion procedures inaccessible,
145 unsafe or hostile.

146 - To not support candidates with ties to anti-abortion movements or causes
147 linked to anti-abortion.

148 - To not accept money from anti-abortion movements or causes linked to anti-
149 abortion.