

Urgent written question to the European Commission

Subject: Access to safe abortion for women fleeing the war in Ukraine

Poland has welcomed nearly 2.5 million refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine, most of them women and children and amongst them thousands of pregnant women. Polish abortion advocacy groups are receiving hundreds of calls from women fleeing Ukraine who seek advice on abortion, but have nowhere to turn to in Poland, because of the near total ban on abortion in the country. Other reports concern women who were raped by Russian soldiers, have fled to Poland and now cannot get access to safe abortion. NGO's, advocacy and activist groups are doing their utmost to aid women with access to SRHR, and are putting their own freedom on the line because of high risk of prosecution by the Polish authorities, such as happened with the recent case of Justyna Wydrzyńska.

1. What is the Commission doing to ensure that the EU humanitarian response includes the assistance and access to SRHR?
2. What are the Commission's plans to facilitate safe passage to other EU countries for people seeking adequate SRHR? Are pregnant people covered by the intra-EU medical transfers for refugees?
3. What is the Commission doing to help human rights defenders and organizations aiding women in this, who risk being prosecuted by the Polish authorities?

Signed,

Members of the European Parliament, Greens/EFA Group

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