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30 January 2014

The imperative need to avoid the counter reform on Abortion in Spain which breaches women's human rights

Written declaration No. 566

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

1. This is the greatest step backwards as regards rights and freedoms in Spain in the whole of our democratic era, and takes us back to moments of our history which we believed overcome.
2. The current Act of 2010 on sexual and reproductive health and on the voluntary termination of pregnancy is to be amended by an Act entitled "For the protection of the life of the conceived and the rights of the pregnant woman".
3. Under the Bill the interruption of pregnancy will be permitted only in case of rape, after lodging of a complaint and within a maximum of 12 weeks, and in that of serious deformity of the unborn child ("non nasciturus") incompatible with the life of the mother.
4. Therefore, this Act deprives Spanish women of all capacity to decide freely on their motherhood.
5. 90% of women interrupting pregnancy during the first 12 weeks, will have to do so in a clandestine way, thus risking their lives, freedom and dignity.
6. With this Bill, Spanish women will no longer be legal persons, but subjects of law who need to be supervised, thus depriving them of their status as rational persons with full enjoyment of their freedoms.
7. 86% of Spaniards consider this Bill an abuse of women's freedoms and of those of society as a whole. 75% consider it unnecessary.

Therefore, we call on:

- the members of this Assembly, to sign this declaration so as to prevent Spanish women's rights from being undermined;
- the Committee of Ministers to take steps so that this Bill, which violates women's human rights, shall not be enforced.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

BLANCO Delia, Spain, SOC
ACKETOFT Tina, Sweden, ALDE
ADAM Claude, Luxembourg, SOC
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
ARIB Khadija, Netherlands, SOC
AUROI Danielle, France, SOC
AXELSSON Lennart, Sweden, SOC
AZPIAZU Pedro, Spain, ALDE
BACQUELAINE Daniel, Belgium, ALDE
BATAILLE Christian, France, SOC
BAYKAL Deniz, Turkey, SOC
BERDZENISHVILI Levan, Georgia, ALDE
BERTUZZI Maria Teresa, Italy, SOC
BESELIA Eka, Georgia, SOC
BIES Philippe, France, SOC
BİLGEHAN Gülsün, Turkey, SOC
BLANCHART Philippe, Belgium, SOC
BLANCO Delia, Spain, SOC
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
BOJANIĆ Mladen, Montenegro, SOC
BONET Sílvia Eloïsa, Andorra, SOC
BOURZAI Bernadette, France, SOC
BULAJIĆ Svetislava, Serbia, ALDE
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
CONNARTY Michael, United Kingdom, SOC
CORSINI Paolo, Italy, SOC
CROZON Pascale, France, SOC
CRUCHTEN Yves, Luxembourg, SOC
DAVIES Geraint, United Kingdom, SOC
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
DOUROU Eirini, Greece, UEL
DRAGASAKIS Ioannis, Greece, UEL
DURRIEU Josette, France, SOC
FIALA Doris, Switzerland, ALDE
FINCKH-KRÄMER Ute, Germany, SOC
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
FRÉCON Jean-Claude, France, SOC
GIANNAKAKI Maria, Greece, SOC
GKEREKOU Angeliki, Greece, SOC
GORGHIU Alina Ștefania, Romania, ALDE
GOZI Sandro, Italy, SOC
GROTH Annette, Germany, UEL
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
GÜR Nazmi, Turkey, UEL
GUTIÉRREZ Antonio, Spain, SOC
HÄGG Carina, Sweden, SOC
HANCOCK Mike, United Kingdom, ALDE
HÄRSTEDT Kent, Sweden, SOC
HENRY Olivier, Belgium, SOC
IVANOVSKI Igor, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", SOC
JAPARIDZE Tedo, Georgia, SOC
JÁUREGUI Ramón, Spain, SOC
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
JURATOVIC Josip, Germany, SOC
KARAMANLI Marietta, France, SOC

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left

KLINGE Jenny, Norway, ALDE
KOÇ Haluk, Turkey, SOC
KYRIAKIDOU Athina, Cyprus, SOC
LAZZARI Luca, San Marino, UEL
LE DÉAUT Jean-Yves, France, SOC
LEBEDA Pavel, Czech Republic, SOC
LONCLE François, France, SOC
LOUCAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
LUNDGREN Kerstin, Sweden, ALDE
MAELEN Dirk, Van der, Belgium, SOC
MAGAZINOVIĆ Saša, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
MAGRADZE Guguli, Georgia, SOC
MAHOUX Philippe, Belgium, SOC
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STRÄSSER Christoph, Germany, SOC
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Total = 105