



Plenary sitting

B9-0292/2022

3.6.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on global threats to abortion rights: the possible overturn of abortion rights in the US by the Supreme Court
(2022/2665(RSP))

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on behalf of the ECR Group

European Parliament resolution on global threats to abortion rights: the possible overturn of abortion rights in the US by the Supreme Court (2022/2665(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which states that Union action ‘shall respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the definition of their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care’,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948, which states in Article 3 that ‘everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person’ and in Article 18 that ‘everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion’,
 - having regard to the Declaration of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 20 November 1989, which states in its Preamble that ‘the child [...] needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth’,
 - having regard to Article 10 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which states that ‘everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion’, and that ‘the right to conscientious objection is recognised, in accordance with the national laws governing the exercise of this right’,
 - having regard to the Council of Europe Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine, which provides in Article 4 on professional obligations and standards of conduct that ‘any intervention in the health field, including research, must be carried out in accordance with relevant professional obligations and standards’,
 - having regard to its resolution of 10 December 2013 on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights¹,
 - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the formulation and implementation of policies relating to sexual health and education, reproduction and abortion fall exclusively within the legislative competence of the Member States;
- B. whereas life has an absolute value and a healthy society recognises this value;
- C. whereas human beings have self-awareness, which makes them transcendent and search

¹ OJ C 468, 15.12.2016, p. 66.

for the meaning of life;

- D. whereas dignity is inherent to the human condition and can never be called into question;
 - E. whereas a person and their life are an end in themselves, and the defence of this life cannot be subject to any conditions;
 - F. whereas for there to be freedom in decision-making, the truth and reality must be acknowledged so that there can be no deception;
 - G. whereas human beings must make good use of their freedom and exercise it in pursuit of their own good and the good of others;
 - H. whereas Article 35 of the Fundamental Charter of Human Rights guarantees the right of every person to preventive healthcare and to benefit from healthcare under the conditions established by national laws guaranteeing a high level of human health protection;
 - I. whereas abortion is the termination of life in progress in a mother's womb;
1. Notes that the European Union does not have any competence for the development and implementation of policies related to sexual health and education, reproduction and abortion on national or international level;
 2. Notes that access to abortion is not recognised as a human right under international law, the UDHR, relevant treaties or the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union;
 3. Underlines that abortion can never be considered a human right because it violates the very basis of human rights and contravenes human nature itself;
 4. Considers that both life and health are inviolable and inalienable goods that are the basis and the guarantee for the exercise of human rights;
 5. Notes that human life has infinite value and must be cherished; points out that it is our natural responsibility to care for life and to protect it from any form of aggression or violation of its dignity;
 6. Notes that terminating an ongoing pregnancy removes the possibility of the birth of a unique and unrepeatable person;
 7. Affirms that any kind of violence and deprivation of liberty constitutes an attack on human freedom and dignity;
 8. Recalls that the '*nasciturus*' (unborn child) acquires specific legal protection in all situations that may be favourable to it by assimilating its status to that of a new-born child;
 9. Recalls the right of pregnant women to receive due consideration and treatment in support of the fragile situation they are in;

10. Points out that life in the womb is delicate and may require the mother's special care;
11. Points out that the freedom of decision is violated when a pregnant woman does not have objective, truthful and complete information about her pregnancy at all times;
12. Points out that a patient's autonomy must be in line with the protection of their physical safety of the mother and the child and their own lives;
13. Recalls that the proper exercise of freedom implies the defence of the most unprotected and fragile, and that it must be in line with good and the truth;
14. Recalls the right of every pregnant woman to receive timely medical care to ensure a high level of protection of her own and her child's health;
15. Recalls that some pregnant women could find themselves in a helpless situation, which implies an obligation for Member States to provide economic, social, psychological support and implement assistance measures;
16. Calls for the recognition of the assistance provided by institutions that offer support to pregnant women;
17. Recalls that there are rights and duties incumbent on the father figure as well as the mother figure as they have an inescapable responsibility from pregnancy, through infancy and as the child grows up and matures;
18. Points out that any limitation on child numbers is contrary to the right to life enshrined in human rights legislation and is fundamental to the democratic rule of law;
19. Recalls that forced sterilisation violates the dignity of women and is an act of aggression according to Article 7 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
20. Recalls that forced abortion is a violation of fundamental rights that should be publicly condemned and prosecuted;
21. Calls for a declaration that the selective abortion of girls is unacceptable, constitutes discrimination on grounds of sex and must be completely rejected;
22. Notes that mothers whose babies may have some kind of malformation or physical or biological limitation are frequently encouraged to have abortions, which may lead to rejection of these persons by society;
23. Calls for recognition of the fact that after an abortion there are women who suffer psychological damage and regret, when it has not been freely, consciously and responsibly considered due to insufficient education and information;
24. Urges the Member States to require the formal consent of the parents when a minor is considering an abortion, as they are responsible for their care and education;
25. Urges Member States to be aware that there are anti-pregnancy campaigns which discredit aspects of motherhood and may negatively influence people's life choices;

26. Calls for awareness of the pressure that can be exerted by the emotional, family and social environment of pregnant women where she may be forced to have an abortion, conditioning her freedom of decision;
27. Notes that the right to conscientious objection for health professionals is a fundamental and essential right in medical care and that they must never be forced or pressured to act contrary to professional medical ethics;
28. Recalls that proposing abortion repeatedly and/or under threat is an attack on women's freedom of conscience and decision;
29. Points out that freedom of conscience must be respected, and that people must be free to express different ideas, opinions and beliefs;
30. Condemns the fact that in political and social discourse there is censorship of certain opinions in defence of life;
31. Stresses that the formulation and implementation of policies on sexual education in schools lies within the exclusive competence of the Member States, and that these policies must always respect the responsibility of the parents;
32. Recalls that from its earliest embryonic state, a baby can suffer as result of any kind of interference or aggression during its natural gestational development;
33. Notes the need to analyse the effect on our society of the legalisation of practices contrary to the defence of life;
34. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.